

CHRISTMAS NUMBER COUNTRY LIFE

On Sale Thursday
DECEMBER 1, 1955

THREE SHILLINGS



BREAKING COVER, BY PHILIP REINAGLE, R.A. (1749-1833)

With acknowledgements to Messrs. Vicars Brothers

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Departure

from the original water-colour by Ernest Uden

LUNCHEONS are usually a little more hurried to-day, snatched in between business meetings or halfway through an important engagement. But you can still enjoy in "King George IV" the leisurely pace of days gone by. Smooth and mellowed with the passing of time, here is a whisky, rich and rare in flavour, which brings the calm of yesterday to the hurried hours of to-day.

*"The
Top Notch
of Scotch"*

"King George IV" OLD SCOTCH WHISKY

*Maximum Retail Prices as fixed
by the Scotch Whisky Association*

THE DISTILLERS AGENCY LTD. EDINBURGH



COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. CXVIII No. 3072

DECEMBER 1, 1955

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

QUEEN ANNE AND REGENCY HOUSE STANDING IN A PARK

Malmesbury 4½ miles. Tetbury 6 miles. Bristol 22 miles.

WITH ¾ MILE TROUT FISHING

Hall, 4 reception rooms, 6 bed and dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms (including 2 suites of bedroom, dressing room and bathroom). Nursery suite of 4 rooms and bathroom.

SELF CONTAINED STAFF FLAT of 4 rooms, kitchen, bathroom.

The House has many period features including fine Adam Mantelpieces both Marble and Carved, and a fine staircase, probably by Wyatt.



Oil-fired central heating and domestic hot water. Main electricity and power.

2 lodges and chauffeur's flat, each with bathroom and w.c.

Stabling for 12. Garage for 4.

IN ALL ABOUT 55 ACRES

Freehold with possession.

Joint Sole Agents: ALFRED SAVILL & SONS, 51a, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.2 (Tel.: HOL 8741), and KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (52833 C.A.B.)

ECONOMIC EFFICIENCY ON THE FARM

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

will undertake

To Interpret Farm Accounts

To Cost individual Farm Enterprises

To Indicate the Productivity per acre

To give the Labour and Machinery efficiency per £100 Net Output

and

PREPARE A BUDGET FOR THE FUTURE

OXON—GLOUCESTERSHIRE BORDERS

In a charming Cotswold village.

Quiet position within easy reach of main-line station and several well-known hunts.



CHARMING STONE-BUILT PERIOD HOUSE in good order with every modern convenience.

3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms (basins h. and c.), 2 bathrooms. Automatic central heating.

All main services. Cottage. Garages for 2-3.

Attractive easily maintained garden.

ABOUT 1¼ ACRES

A SECONDARY 3-BEDROOMED RESIDENCE overlooking the River Windrush and pair of cottages can also be offered with possession.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Sole Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (53444 K.M.)



MAYfair 3771
(15 lines)

20, HANOVER SQUARE, LONDON, W.1
HEREFORD OFFICE: 22 HIGH TOWN (Tel. 5160)

Telegrams:
"Galleries, Wendo, London"



JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF

8, HANOVER STREET, LONDON, W.1. MAYFAIR 3316-7

Also at CIRENCESTER, NORTHAMPTON, YORK, YEOVIL, CHICHESTER, CHESTER, NEWMARKET AND DUBLIN

By Direction of R. N. Richmond-Watson, Esq.

OXFORDSHIRE. ON THE EDGE OF THE CHILTERN HILLS

Thame 9 miles, Reading and Oxford equidistant 15 miles.

MAINLY WITH VACANT POSSESSION. THE NOTED RESIDENTIAL AND ATTESTED AGRICULTURAL ESTATE
BRIGHTWELL PARK, BRIGHTWELL BALDWIN

HAVING A MEDIUM-SIZED CHARACTER RESIDENCE

In a charming small park overlooking the lake.

3 reception rooms, nursery, 9 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Oil-fired central heating. Main electricity. Garages and stabling. Hard tennis court. Valuable grazing parklands.

Together with BRIGHTWELL FARM
A useful dairy and mixed holding let to substantial tenant.

Two exceptional Corn and Stock Farms
HOME FARM, CHALGROVE
of 386 ACRES

With outstanding new farm buildings and drying plant.

WARPSGROVE FARM of 250 ACRES



A highly profitable small Poultry Farm with Cafeteria laying batteries for 2,640 Birds.

Several attractive Houses and Cottages, all carefully modernised, and Valuable Enclosures of Accommodation Land.

The whole extending to

ABOUT 1071 ACRES

TO BE OFFERED FOR SALE BY AUCTION (unless previously sold privately) **IN 15 LOTS, at the TOWN HALL, OXFORD, on WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1955, at 2.30 p.m.**

Particulars can be obtained from the Auctioneers: **JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 20, Bridge Street, Northampton (Tel. 32990), 8, Hanover Street, London, W.1 (Mayfair 3316).** Solicitors: Messrs. **DAWSON & CO., 2, New Square, Lincoln's Inn, London, W.C.2 (Holborn 9741).**

THE LLEYN PENINSULA, CAERNARVONSHIRE

Well known for an equitable climate and sunshine totals equalling the South Coast.

PROPERTIES SUITABLE FOR RETIREMENT OR HOLIDAYS

Excellent coastal bathing, sailing, golf and fishing. Ideal for children.

BWN-Y-MOR, CRICCIETH

2 reception rooms, 4-6 bedrooms, bathroom. Main services. Garden.

TO BE LET £260 P.A. INCLUSIVE

BRON Y GAER, CRICCIETH

2 reception rooms, 3 bedrooms, bathroom. Garage. Main services.

PRICE £3,000 FREEHOLD

TANLLAN COTTAGE, NEVIN

2 reception rooms, 3 bedrooms, tiled bathroom. Garage. Garden.

PRICE £2,000 FREEHOLD



PENARFON, MORFA NEVIN

2 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, bathroom. Main services. Garage. Garden.

PRICE £4,800 FREEHOLD

GREENACRES, ABERSOCH

Drawing room with dining recess, 3 bedrooms, bathroom. Main services. Garage. Garden.

FOR SALE TO INCLUDE CONTENTS

ERW WEN, MINFFORDD, PENRHYDDEUDRAETH

Sitting/dining room, 3 bedrooms, bathroom. Main services. Garage. Garden.

PRICE £2,950 FREEHOLD

Full particulars of any of the above and other properties in North Wales, Cheshire, Shropshire or any part of the British Isles obtainable from the Agents: **JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 25, Nicholas Street, Chester (Tel. 21522-3).**

By direction of the Earl and Countess Mountbatten of Burma.

'SANDPITS'

ON THE BROADLANDS ESTATE, ROMSEY, HANTS

7 miles from Southampton, standing in a superb and isolated position, 300 ft. above sea level, on a south-westerly slope and commanding an unsurpassed view of the pastoral valley of the River Test to the wooded slopes beyond.



A DELIGHTFUL MODERN HOUSE
built on the site of one destroyed by enemy action.

The accommodation comprises: hall and cloakroom, sitting room (20ft. x 13ft.), dining room (16ft. x 13ft.), 3 principal bedrooms, bathroom, 2 secondary bedrooms.

Well appointed kitchen with refrigerator.

TO BE LET ON LEASE FOR 7, 14, 21 YEARS.

Further particulars and order to view from: **JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 8, Hanover Street, W.1 (Mayfair 3316-7).**

CORNWALL. LISKEARD 5 MILES

A FINELY EQUIPPED STOCK OR DAIRY FARM

MODERNISED FARMHOUSE

2 RECEPTION ROOMS, 4 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM.

EXCELLENT BUILDINGS WITH COVERED YARDS, BOXES, BULL PENS AND HAY BARN

FINE MODERN COTTAGE

Main electricity.

Highly fertile lands of 123 ACRES

BARGAIN £8,750 WITH IMMEDIATE POSSESSION

Apply: **JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 30, Hendford, Yeovil (Tel. 1066).**

WEST SUFFOLK

Towards the Norfolk border.

THE PARTICULARLY ATTRACTIVE SMALL COUNTRY HOUSE OF CHARACTER BECK HOUSE, NEAR MILDENHALL

Lounge hall, 2 reception, cloakroom, 4 bedrooms (3 having wash-basins), 2 bathrooms, kitchen, etc.

Main water and electricity.

Outbuildings with double garage.

Very pleasant gardens and grounds.



1 ACRE. FREEHOLD. £4,500 OPEN TO OFFER

Sole Agents: **JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, East Anglian Office, 168, High Street, Newmarket (Tel. 2231-2)**

50 MINUTES EXPRESS RUN FROM LONDON

BEDS-BUCKS BORDERS

MODERN HOUSE IN CHARMING GARDEN

with hard tennis court

ON TWO FLOORS ONLY

3 RECEPTION ROOMS (EXQUISITELY PROPORTIONED), 7 BEDROOMS, 4 BATHROOMS (EXPENSIVELY FITTED, SHOWERS, ETC.), EXTENSIVE FITTED BOUDOIR CUPBOARDS AND WARDROBES, MODERN KITCHEN (AGA, DEEP FREEZE, REFRIGERATOR, ETC.).

Floodlit paved Courtyard with fountain.

3 MAIDS' ROOMS. LARGE GARAGE

4 ACRES

Extra land with modern farm buildings and stables available if desired.

WILL BE SOLD AT BEST OFFER OVER £5,500 BY DECEMBER 10, 1955.

For full particulars quote "P.O.", **JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 20, Bridge Street, Northampton.**

[Continued on Supplement 23]

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

WESTERN MIDLANDS

Easy reach of the Potteries and Birmingham

FIRST-CLASS AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT

About 1516 Acres

Rent Roll £3,573

THE ESTATE INCLUDES 7 FARMS OF BETWEEN 40 AND 270 ACRES, TOGETHER WITH SMALLHOLDINGS, COTTAGES, PARKLAND, WOODLAND OF 236 ACRES. The farms are mainly Dairy and Mixed Holdings and the land has been well farmed by tenants of old standing.

TO BE SOLD FREEHOLD

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, (52,421 R.P.L.)

HAMPSHIRE—NEAR WINCHESTER

A CHARMING PERIOD HOUSE WITH TYPICAL QUEEN ANNE FEATURES

THE HOUSE FACES SOUTH

in a sheltered position and contains:

HALL, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS,
11 BED AND DRESSING ROOMS,
3 BATHROOMS

Modern kitchen and labour saving domestic quarters.

Oil-fired central heating. Main electricity, power, water and gas.



Garage. Tithe barn.

2 COTTAGES

thoroughly modernised with
bathrooms, etc.

HARD TENNIS COURT

Attractive garden, woodland.

3 PADDOCKS

TOTAL AREA 11 ACRES

For Sale Freehold.

Sole Agents: KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, (8,217 C.A.B.)

LEATHERHEAD—London under 20 miles

On high ground with magnificent views.

Close to frequent 'bus service and 1 mile from station.



Exceptionally well built and appointed modern house with attractive elevations and compactly planned on two floors only.

Large hall, 3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Central heating. All main services. Garage for 2 cars.

Delightful easily maintained gardens, fruit trees and kitchen garden.

ABOUT 2 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Joint Agents: Messrs. CHAS. OSENTON & CO. (W. L. Landon, F.A.I.), 36, North Street, Leatherhead (Tel. 3001-2), and at Ashted (Tel. 2382) and Oxshott (Tel. 3344) and Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY (45,926 S.C.M.)

CLOSE TO HAMPSHIRE COAST

Occupying a delightful position on edge of unspoilt village

WITHIN A FEW MINUTES WALK OF THE SEA

A charming Queen Anne house in first-class order.



Having every modern convenience.

4 RECEPTION ROOMS,
7 BEDROOMS,
3 BATHROOMS.

Automatic central heating.

ALL MAIN SERVICES

Tithe barn.

Garage for 2

COTTAGE

Beautiful well-stocked garden, walled kitchen garden, paddock.

ABOUT 12 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, (37,197 K.M.)

BETWEEN PETERSFIELD AND ALTON

Standing about 375 feet up with delightful views.

London just over 1 hour by express train.

AN ATTRACTIVE WELL-APPOINTED COUNTRY HOUSE

ON 2 FLOORS ONLY.

Lounge hall, 4 reception rooms, compact domestic offices, 5 bedrooms, 2 dressing rooms, 2 staff bedrooms, 3 bathrooms.

Automatic oil-fired central heating. Main services.

GARAGE FOR 4 CARS

STABLING, STUDIO

Entrance Lodge with bathroom.



Easily maintained matured gardens with tennis and other lawns; kitchen garden run on market garden lines, orchard and woodland.

ABOUT 8½ ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, (53,258 S.C.M.)

BETWEEN MARLOW & BEACONSFIELD

Situated on a southern slope in wooded surroundings. Easy reach of station and bus route. London 1 hour.

AN ATTRACTIVE WELL-BUILT AND COMPACT HOUSE

Planned entirely on two floors, practically all principal rooms having south aspect.

Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms. Partial central heating, main electric light, power and water. Modern drainage. Double garage with playroom above.

Well timbered with tennis and other lawns, flowering trees and shrubs. Kitchen garden and fruit trees.



ABOUT 2 ACRES

PRICE FREEHOLD £6,000

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, (52,110 S.C.M.)

MAYfair 3771
(15 lines)

20, HANOVER SQUARE, LONDON, W.1
HEREFORD OFFICE: 22 HIGH TOWN (Tel. 5160)

Telegrams:
"Galleries, Wendo, London"



HAMPTON & SONS

6, ARLINGTON STREET, ST. JAMES'S, S.W.1

HYDe Park 8222 (20 lines)

Telegrams: "Selaniet, Piccy, London"



SUSSEX

Only 5 miles from the coast.

UNUSUALLY ATTRACTIVE AND BEAUTIFULLY SITUATED SMALL BREEDING ESTABLISHMENT
STUD FARM, POLEGATE



Sheltered, with south aspect and
downland views.

Designed as Stud Farm but
suitable for riding school or
small specialist farm.

PICTURESQUE SMALL HOUSE
4 bedrooms, bathroom,
2-3 reception rooms.

Main services.

Extensive brick and tiled
STABLING

29 loose boxes, 2 foaling boxes,
Garage for 2. Barn, office,
workshop, granary, etc.

7 RAILED PADDOCKS



IN ALL 38 ACRES WITH VACANT POSSESSION

FOR SALE PRIVATELY OR BY AUCTION DECEMBER 13 NEXT

Solicitors: Messrs. MAYO & PERKINS, 1, Upperton Gardens, Eastbourne. Illustrated particulars from the Auctioneers: HAMPTON & SONS.

OXFORDSHIRE—BERKSHIRE BORDER

15 miles Oxford, 7 miles Henley-on-Thames, 12 miles Reading.

EWELEME PARK FARM

786 ACRES

ALL WITH VACANT POSSESSION

FIRST-CLASS PEDIGREE T.T. (ATTESTED) FARM

2 sets excellent buildings.

Cowstandings for 87. 30 loose boxes.

MANOR HOUSE, FARMHOUSE, 10 COTTAGES

Main water and electricity.

640 ACRES LAND in good heart, well fenced and watered, all fields easily
accessible. 130 ACRES very well stocked woodlands and shelter belts providing
excellent shoot.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD £37,500

HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1 (B.27043), or
Messrs. G. LANGLEY-TAYLOR & PARTNERS, Land Agents, 9, King's Bench
Walk, E.C.4.

WORCS.—GLOS. BORDERS

Between Chipping Campden and Broadway in a secluded woodland setting with
magnificent views.

A LOVELY

PART XVth-CENTURY COTSWOLD STONE HOUSE

fully modernised and in excellent condition.

HALL, DRAWING ROOM 30 ft. by 16 ft., DINING ROOM 20 ft. by 16 ft., STUDY,
KITCHEN WITH AGA. STAFF SITTING ROOM, 4 PRINCIPAL AND
3 SECONDARY BEDROOMS, DRESSING ROOM, 3 BATHROOMS.

Main electricity, own unlimited water supply. Oil-fired central heating.

COTTAGE with 3 bedrooms. GARAGE for 4. LOOSE BOXES for 5.
EXCEPTIONALLY BEAUTIFUL BUT EASILY MAINTAINED GARDEN.

Orchard, 60 acres pasture and buildings let, but remainder, mostly woodland, vacant.

Total area 113 ACRES

FREEHOLD £14,000

Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (D.2571)

XVth-CENTURY SUSSEX FARM HOUSE

FOR SALE

On a southern slope in a favourable part of the county.

SMALL FARMERY WITH T.T. ATTESTED BUILDINGS

Picturesque house with a fine central
Tudor chimney, listed in "Buildings of
Architectural and Historic Interest."

4 BEDROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS,
2 RECEPTION ROOMS AND STONE
FLAGGED HALL

Agar cooker

Janitor boiler for hot water and radiators.
Main electric light and water.



STABLING, GARAGE, COWHOUSE for 8.

Grain germinating house. Bull pen, calving
box, etc., all fitted fluorescent lighting.

EXCELLENT COTTAGE

Delightful garden, prolific apple orchard with
spacious packing shed.

TOTAL AREA ABOUT 16 ACRES ON A SANDY LOAM AND SANDROCK SUBSOIL

Inspected and recommended by the Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's S.W.1. (C.33127)

IN THE FAVOURITE COBHAM DISTRICT

High position with views to the Surrey Hills. Under 1 mile village and station.

PICTURESQUE MODERN HOUSE



nicely appointed with oak
flush doors, oak floors,
radiators, etc.

Lounge hall, cloakroom,
2 nice reception rooms,
labour-saving offices with
maid's room, 4 bedrooms,
half-tiled bathroom.

GARAGE

All main services.

Part central heating.

CHARMING GARDEN
easy of maintenance,
crazy paved terrace.

1/2 ACRE.

FREEHOLD £7,750 OR CLOSER OFFER

Urgent sale as owner going abroad.

Recommended by
HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (S.65628)

ON THE FRINGE OF OPEN COUNTRY

with fine southerly views. Surrey (30 minutes Victoria)

CHARMING MODERNISED CHARACTER HOUSE

in excellent order,
labour-saving and
up-to-date in every way.

Lounge hall, 2 reception
rooms, 5 bedrooms,
well-fitted bathroom.

Company's services.

GARAGES FOR 2

Compact buildings include

2 Danish piggeries,

3 large sties, store room

and other outbuildings.

Inexpensive garden of

about 1/2 acre, large field, etc.

in all

ABOUT 5 ACRES



FREEHOLD £7,100. RECOMMENDED BY

HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (S.52972)

[Continued on Supplement 20]

BRANCH OFFICES: WIMBLEDON COMMON AND STATION; BOURNEMOUTH, HANTS; AND BISHOP'S STORTFORD, HERTS.

HYDE PARK
4304

OSBORN & MERCER

MEMBERS OF THE CHARTERED SURVEYORS' AND AUCTIONEERS' INSTITUTES

28b, ALBEMARLE STREET,
PICCADILLY W.1

CHICHESTER HARBOUR

Occupying a pleasant position on the outskirts of the delightful yachting village of Itchenor.
A CHARMING SMALL MODERN HOUSE



On 2 floors only, with a view of the Channel. Hall, 2 reception, 3-4 bedrooms (basins h. and c.), bathroom, maids' room, adequate domestic offices. Main electricity and water. 2 garages. Matured garden.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 3/4 ACRE
Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (20,855)

BUCKS AND HERTS BORDERS

Amidst delightful undulating countryside between Berkhamsted and Chesham.

AN ATTRACTIVE COUNTRY RESIDENCE
brick built and in splendid order, with

3 reception, 7 bedrooms, bathroom.
Main electricity, gas and water.

Small but picturesque and secluded garden

ONLY £4,500 FREEHOLD

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (20,796)

NEAR A BUCKINGHAMSHIRE VILLAGE

300 feet up with south aspect. London about 22 miles.

A DELIGHTFUL COUNTRY HOME

with comfortable and well-planned accommodation

Hall, 3 reception, 6 bedrooms (4 with basins), 2 dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms. Partial central heating. Main electricity and water.

2 garages. Ranges of brick buildings.

Matured well-timbered gardens of ABOUT 1 1/2 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (20,349)

COOKHAM DEAN

On high ground with lovely unspoilt views.
A Modern House of Character



Well-planned and fitted, compact and easily run with 3 reception, 4-5 bedrooms (3 with basins), bathroom, shower room. Main water and electricity.

Central heating with Janitor boiler. 2 garages. Delightful matured garden, orchard, paddock and woodland.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 2 ACRES.

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (20,872)

4, ALBANY COURT YARD,
PICCADILLY, W.1
REGENT 1184 (3 lines)

NICHOLAS

(ESTABLISHED 1882)

1, STATION ROAD,
READING
READING 54055 (3 lines)

A QUEEN ANNE HOUSE IN HAMPSHIRE

Waterloo within the hour from Winchester Station.

THIS REALLY
CHARMING QUEEN ANNE HOUSE
has all the amenities of a small country estate.

It stands in a small park surrounded by the unspoilt countryside of this lovely part of Hampshire.

The house, which has all the elegance and grace of its period, has been maintained in good condition.



6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms. Compact offices with Esso cooker and Agamatic.

Main services and central heating.

Modern cottage (a second cottage is available if wanted).

Garages and stabling.

31 ACRES, mainly well timbered park, but including also a very profitable walled kitchen garden.

For full particulars of this most attractive small estate, apply to the agents, Messrs. NICHOLAS (London Office), as above.

A GEORGIAN HOUSE IN MIDHURST

THIS CHARMING AND
DISTINGUISHED GEORGIAN HOUSE

Stands in a delightful and secluded garden less than ten minutes' walk from the centre of the attractive little town of Midhurst.

IT IS IN GOOD ORDER THROUGHOUT AND UNHESITATINGLY RECOMMENDED TO THOSE WHO SEEK A HOUSE WITH THE ATMOSPHERE OF THE COUNTRY AND THE CONVENIENCE OF THE TOWN



For further particulars apply to the Sole Agents: Messrs. NICHOLAS (London Office).

THERE ARE 5 BEDROOMS, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS AND COMPACT OFFICES

All main services are connected and there is partial central heating.

THERE ARE SOME GOOD
OUTBUILDINGS

The garden is particularly beautiful and although it extends to about 2 ACRES it is easily maintained.

Selected trees shelter the house on every side.

THE FREEHOLD IS OFFERED
FOR SALE AT £8,500

GROsvenor 2838 (2 lines)
MAYfair 0388

TURNER LORD & RANSOM

127, MOUNT STREET, LONDON, W.1

Telegrams:
Turloran, Audley, London

RENT £250 P.A. EXCLUSIVE
TO BE LET, ON A GENTLEMAN'S ESTATE

Hunting with the Middleton. (Shooting over 3,000 acres may be had.)

MALTON, YORKSHIRE

THIS ATTRACTIVE COUNTRY RESIDENCE WITH 27 ACRES



In convenient paddocks,
in a ring fence.

3 good reception rooms,
8 bed and dressing rooms,
3 bathrooms, servants'
hall, offices, annexe or
nursery
(2 rooms, bathroom).

Easily-run garden.

OIL-FIRED CENTRAL
HEATING.

Main electricity and water.

2 cottages. Garage for 3. Stabling—7 boxes, stall. Farmery.

Strongly recommended from personal inspection £5,500 only.
WELL-APPOINTED PERIOD RESIDENCE IN BEAUTIFUL CONDITION

KENT

High up, in country
surroundings.

3 miles coastal town.

Carriage drive.

5 bedrooms, 2 modern
bathrooms, hall, lounge,
3 reception rooms.

Main electricity and water.

Easily run garden,
orchard, kitchen garden.

Pavilion. Double garage,
2 paddocks.



7 ACRES FREEHOLD

Four additional acres available.

GROSVENOR 1553
(4 lines)

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

(ESTABLISHED 1778)

25, MOUNT STREET, GROSVENOR SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

13, Hobart Place,
Eaton Square,
5, West Halkin Street,
Belgrave Square,
London, S.W.1.

KINGSWOOD, SURREY

Secluded position in private cul-de-sac.

BEAUTIFULLY FITTED MODERN RESIDENCE OF EXCEPTIONAL
ATTRACTION

In excellent order with tasteful decorations. Oil-fired central heating. Oak strip floors. 2 bathrooms, principal suite of bedroom, bathroom and w.c., 4 other bedrooms (fitted basins), and bathroom, 2-3 reception rooms (including sun room or study), modern well-fitted kitchen.

All main services, including gas.

Double garage with large room over.

1 ACRE secluded wooded garden (1 man 1 day per week) with hard tennis court.

IMMEDIATE POSSESSION

Highly recommended. GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.1.
R.A.W. (D.1848)

BUCKS. CLOSE TO BURNHAM BEECHES AND
RIVER THAMES

Amidst unspoiled surroundings, 2½ miles main line station (Paddington 30 minutes), London 27 miles.

THIS COMFORTABLY EQUIPPED COUNTRY RESIDENCE

Comprising 4 principal bedrooms and 2 dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms. Staff accommodation if required. Modern domestic offices with Aga.

Central heating throughout. Main water and electricity. 2 garages.



Excellent grounds of about 3 ACRES

TO BE LET FURNISHED. PERIOD BY ARRANGEMENT

Recommended by GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.1.
D.L. (6620)

PERIOD COTTAGE IN KENT

Lovely position in hamlet 400 ft. up.

Daily reach of London in under 1 hour.

SCHEDULED AS AN HISTORICAL BUILDING
PART 18th-CENTURY WITH EARLY GEORGIAN
FRONT ELEVATION

5 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM, 5 RECEPTION ROOMS

Main electricity and water.

DOUBLE GARAGE. GARDEN ROOM
CHARMING AND WELL STOCKED GARDEN

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH 1½ ACRES

Inspected and recommended by the Sole Agents:
GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS,
25, Mount Street, London, W.1.

E.H.T. (D.2797)

WEST SUSSEX

1 mile market town. Frequent electric train service to London (Victoria within the hour).



BLACK AND WHITE CHARACTER RESIDENCE WITH HORSHAM STONE ROOF. Accommodation planned on one floor, comprising: 5 bedrooms, magnificent oak-beamed lounge (30 ft. by 20 ft.), dining room, 2 bathrooms, modern domestic offices. Garage and loose boxes. Grounds with ornamental lake, paddock. In all about 6 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD. Inspected by GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.1. E.H.T. (E.2152)

PROPERTIES WANTED

SUSSEX

REASONABLE DAILY REACH

CHARACTER HOUSE. 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms,

2 cottages and FARM UP TO 300 ACRES., let or lettable without detriment to residence. (Ref. "M")

HANTS.

INCLUDING SURREY BORDERS TO

GUILDFORD AND EAST WILTS TO SALISBURY.

FARM, 50-150 ACRES COTTAGES AND

GENTLEMAN'S HOUSE

4-6 bedrooms. Will modernise or convert pair of cottages, etc. (Ref. "A")

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.1.

GROSVENOR 2861

TRESIDDER & CO.

77, SOUTH AUDLEY STREET, LONDON W.1.

Telegrams:

"Cornishmen (Audley), London 11"

ASHFORD AND FOLKESTONE (between)

High up with views to sea, 3 miles away. CHARMING CHARACTER HOUSE. Hall, 3 reception, 2 bath., 6-7 bed. (2 h. and c.). Main electricity and water, telephone, Aga. Large garage. Cottage. Flower and kitchen gardens orchard and field. 4 ACRES. Quick Sale desired. TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (2,400)

£6,850 FREEHOLD. 7 ACRES

Tunbridge Wells 4½ miles, and one mile from picturesque village of Matfield. On bus route.

A DIGNIFIED COUNTRY HOUSE

IN GOOD ORDER THROUGHOUT AND ON TWO FLOORS ONLY. Hall, 3 reception, music room (30 ft. by 18 ft.), all with inlaid parquet floors, 5 bed rooms, 2 bathrooms. Telephones. Central heating. Main electricity and water. The south wing has been specially converted for an elderly relative into a pleasant ground floor flat with separate entrance and a service flat on the first floor, each with bathroom and separate services. Garages and stable buildings. Gardener's cottage. Delightful well-timbered grounds, spacious lawns, walled garden, greenhouses, paddock, easily maintained and in excellent condition. TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (15,233)

PYRFORD, SURREY

25 miles London. 3 miles Woking. 1 mile main line station. Close to open country. PICTURESQUE MODERN HOUSE facing fully south and obtaining maximum sunshine. 4 bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom, 3 reception rooms. Detached garage. Partial central heating. All main services. Easily maintained garden. ABOUT 1 ACRE

TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1 (30,080).

MAIDENHEAD AND MARLOW (between)

Quiet position away from traffic. Easy reach station and river. A CHARMING BLACK AND WHITE HOUSE, EASILY DIVIDED INTO TWO. Hall, 3 reception, 2 bathrooms, 6 bedrooms. Main electricity, water and gas. Telephone. Large garage. Gardens partly bounded by backwater giving access to main stream. Lawns, kitchen garden, etc. TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1 (19,922)

17 MILES LONDON—CATERHAM-ON-THE-HILL

700 ft. above sea level. Magnificent views over undulating country. Station 1 mile. In first-class order and very well fitted.

DIGNIFIED GEORGIAN HOUSE. Drive with wrought-iron gates. 8 bedrooms (h. and c.), 4 bathrooms, 3 fine reception, up-to-date kitchen and compact offices. Oil-fired central heating. All main services. Parquet flooring. Agamatic. DOUBLE GARAGE. Finely timbered grounds, stocked with choice flowering shrubs, fine cedars, spreading lawns, etc., requiring absolute minimum maintenance. In all about 4 ACRES. VERY MODERATE PRICE FOR QUICK SALE.

TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (15,312)

SUSSEX

8 miles Lewes, 2 miles station. Amidst unspoilt country, enjoying extensive views.

DELIGHTFUL EARLY TUDOR HOUSE. HEAVILY TIMBERED THROUGHOUT, PERFECT PRESERVATION. 3 reception, 2 bath., 6 bedrooms (3 h. and c.). Central heating. Main electricity and water. Garage. Tithe barn and farm buildings. Simply disposed gardens. Ponds. 30 ACRES QUICK SALE DESIRED

TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (19,972)

20, HIGH STREET,
HASLEMERE (Tel. 1207/8)

H. B. BAVERSTOCK & SON

ESTATE OFFICES, GODALMING (Tel. 1722, 5 lines)

4, CASTLE STREET,
FARNHAM (Tel. 5274/5)

HASLEMERE, SURREY

700 ft. above sea level. Southerly aspect. Fine views. 7 minutes walk of High Street.

PICTURESQUE MODERN HOUSE

In attractive decorative order. 4 bed (2 basins), bathroom, 2-3 rec., spacious hall, cloakroom, compact offices with Aga boiler.

MAIN SERVICES. GARAGE.

Secluded gardens and grounds of nearly 1 ACRE. FREEHOLD WITH POSSESSION. Recommended. Haslemere Office.

LIPHOOK, HAMPSHIRE

Enjoying pastoral views and southerly aspect. Village and station within easy walking distance.

ARTISTIC ARCHITECT-DESIGNED MODERN COTTAGE

3-4 bed., bathroom, 2-3 rec., compact offices with staff room.

ALL MAIN SERVICES. GARAGE.

Picturesque garden of ½ ACRE adjoining farmland. FREEHOLD £3,900 WITH POSSESSION.

Haslemere Office.

HAMPSHIRE—SURREY BORDER

In rural surroundings, close to Hampshire village. Fleet main line station 2 miles. Basingstoke 12 miles.



A CHARMING PERIOD COTTAGE, modernised and well fitted. 4 bedrooms (1 basin), bathroom, 2 reception rooms, lounge-hall, breakfast room. Main services. Modern drainage. Garage and outbuildings. Garden of over ½ AN ACRE

PRICE £3,950 WITH POSSESSION

Farnham Office.

RESIDENTIAL GUILDFORD

Quiet and accessible to the Meccas Downs. One mile from the town. Waterloo 40 mins.

SUPERBLY PLANNED BUNGALOW RESIDENCE

with large but few rooms.

2 bedrooms, half-tiled bathroom, deep hall, lounge 19 ft. long, dining room, tiled loggia, model offices.

Immersion heater.

Built-in garage.

ABOUT ONE-THIRD ACRE. PRICE £4,600 FREEHOLD. IMMEDIATE POSSESSION

Godalming Office.

SOUTH-WEST SURREY

Adjoining National Trust Land. 5 miles Godalming.

CHARMING MODERN HOUSE

Sunny and completely labour-saving.

4 bedrooms (2 basins), half-tiled bathroom, hall, 2 reception (one 17 ft. long), compact kitchen. Services. Built-in garage.

Inexpensive garden about 1 ACRE

FREEHOLD £4,150 OR CLOSE OFFER

Godalming Office.

5, MOUNT STREET,
LONDON, W.1
GROsvenor
3131-2 and 4744-5

CURTIS & HENSON

ESTABLISHED 1875

and at
21, HORSEFAIR,
BANBURY, OXON
Tel. 3295-6

WARWICKSHIRE

FIRST-CLASS AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT

comprising

4 GOOD FARMS, SMALLHOLDINGS AND ORCHARDS. ALL LET TO SOUND TENANTS

30 ACRES WOODLAND IN HAND

EXTENDING TO ABOUT

1,052 ACRES PRODUCING £1,900 P.A.

FOR SALE PRIVATELY AS A WHOLE

Joint Sole Agents: ERIC C. D. THOMPSON, F.R.A.S., 30, Yorkersgate, Malton, and CURTIS & HENSON, as above.

SOMERSET-DEVON BORDER

3 miles from Exmoor

STONE-BUILT GEORGIAN HOUSE



situated in a picturesque
small town and com-
prising

3 RECEPTION ROOMS,
CLOAKROOM, KIT-
CHEN, 6 BEDROOMS,
DRESSING ROOM AND
2 STAFF ROOMS; 2
BATHROOMS

Main water and electricity.

Useful outbuildings.

Well maintained garden.

ABOUT 2 ACRES PRICE £4,500 FREEHOLD

Agents: CURTIS & HENSON.

NEW FOREST

In the small unspoilt village of Minstead, 2½ miles from Lyndhurst.

CHARMING OLD HOUSE OF GEORGIAN CHARACTER

Formerly a Rectory

In a secluded position overlooking open country.

Containing: Entrance hall,
27 ft. drawing room, study,
dining room, cloakroom,
7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms,
Kitchen with larder.

Oil-fired central heating.

Main water and electricity.

GARAGE BLOCK

Charming garden, partly
walled kitchen garden.

ABOUT 2½ ACRES



PRICE £5,500 FREEHOLD

Sole Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, as above.

3, MOUNT STREET,
LONDON, W.1.

RALPH PAY & TAYLOR

GROsvenor
1032-33-34

SUSSEX—KENT BORDER

8 miles from Tunbridge Wells. Wonderful position.
Magnificent views.



CHOICE SMALL ESTATE WITH A REALLY FINE HOUSE. Beautifully appointed and in first-class order. 12 beds, 3 bath, 4 reception. Central heating. Main services. Garage. Stabling. Flat. 2 cottages. Old established grounds. T.T. model farm.
NEARLY 50 ACRES
FREEHOLD £13,250 (would be divided).

RURAL

SETTING, NEAR CANTERBURY



ORIGINAL GEORGIAN HOUSE with many period features. 7 bedrooms, 3 bath, 4 reception, modern offices. Central heating. Main electricity, gas and water. Garage with rooms over. Walled garden.

2 COTTAGES, PASTURE AND PADDOCKS.

ABOUT 14 ACRES. FREEHOLD FOR SALE

DEVON. 100 ACRES

In a convenient and delightful situation, 1½ miles Exeter.



ATTRACTIVE RESIDENTIAL T.T. ATTESTED DAIRY FARM

MODERNISED PERIOD HOUSE. 4 bedrooms, 2 reception, 2 bathrooms, well equipped with labour-saving devices. Main electricity and water. Excellent range of buildings.

FREEHOLD £8,500

91, Bridge Street,
Worksop.
Tel. 3347/8

HENRY SPENCER & SONS

9, Norfolk Row,
Sheffield, 1.
Tel. 25206.

ESTABLISHED 1840.
ERIC C. SPENCER, M.B.E., M.A. (Cantab.), F.R.C.S., F.A.C.; ROBERT W. SPENCER, M.A. (Cantab.), F.A.C.; H. MICHAEL SPENCER, A.R.C.S., A.A.C.; LOREN M. SEYMOUR, W.E. PECK, F.A.C.
20, THE SQUARE, RETFORD, NOTTS. Tel. 531/2

RETFORD, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE FOR SALE BY HENRY SPENCER AND SONS

THE CHARMING MODERN RESIDENCE "WOODSIDE," 14, ORDSALL ROAD

Situated in a quiet and favourite position in an entirely country atmosphere and with the delightful background of Babworth Woods.

PILLARED ENTRANCE PORTICO, ENTRANCE HALL, CLOAKROOM with washbasin (hot and cold water), SITTING ROOM, DINING ROOM, COMPACT MODERN KITCHEN, PANTRY, SEPARATE W.C., WIDE LANDING, 4 EXCELLENT BEDROOMS, LUXURY BATHROOM, SEPARATE W.C.



Main electric light (with plugs), main gas, water and drainage.

Among the many features of the house are the modern steel-framed windows and draught-proof doors.

Large coalhouse. Brick garage.

A delightful garden.

VACANT POSSESSION WILL BE GIVEN ON COMPLETION

FREEHOLD

Illustrated particulars and permission to view from HENRY SPENCER & SONS, Auctioneers, 20, The Square, Retford (Tel. 531/2).

22, MOUNT STREET
GROSVENOR SQUARE, LONDON, W.1.

WILSON & CO.

GROSVENOR
1441

SMALL HAMPSHIRE ESTATE WITH ABOUT 83 ACRES

320 ft up adjoining village green with good bus service. Haslemere 7½ miles (Waterloo 1 hour). Easy reach Alton and Petersfield. The Hunt meets at the house. Good riding, rough shooting. Excellent golf nearby. Ideal for daily travel.



CHARMING LONG LOW HOUSE DATING BACK TO THE 17th CENTURY

6/7 beds, 3 baths, panelled hall, 3 reception, model offices, breakfast room, Aga cooker. Oil-fired central heating throughout. Main electricity and water, and the subject of considerable expenditure and in excellent order. SECONDARY RESIDENCE forming part of main house, but entirely separate, with own hot water supply and central heating, hall, cloakroom, 2 large reception, modern offices with breakfast room, 4 beds, bath. MATURED GROUNDS with hard court. CHARACTER COTTAGE. Garages and hunter stabling block. REGISTERED SMALLHOLDING, good buildings with barn, stalls and piggeries, etc. Arable, pasture and woodland. VALUABLE FRONTAGES. FREEHOLD VACANT POSSESSION OF WHOLE.

FAVOURITE HORSHAM DISTRICT

Unexpectedly in the market. Ideal for daily travel, 1 hour London.



COMPACT EASILY RUN MODERN CHARACTER HOUSE so difficult to find to-day. 5 beds (all with basins), bath (second easily added), 3 reception, attractive hall, model new offices breakfast room. Mains, Central heating. Oak strip floors. Garage and range of outbuildings. Secluded gardens, tennis court, orchard. FREEHOLD £8,750 EARLY POSSESSION Highly recommended by Wilson & Co.

WINCHESTER
FLEET
FARNBOROUGH

ALFRED PEARSON & SON

HARTLEY WINTNEY
ALDERSHOT
ALRESFORD

HAMPSHIRE—400 feet above sea level

2½ miles main line station.

A MODERN COUNTRY RESIDENCE WITH CENTRAL HEATING THROUGHOUT AND BATHS IN BEDROOMS



6 bed and dressing rooms,
2 bathrooms, 3 reception
rooms and well equipped
offices.

AGA COOKER

Main water and electricity.

GARAGE FOR 2 CARS

Superior cottage available
if required.

2¾ ACRES

All principal rooms face south and views over undulating country are enjoyed.

Hartley Wintney Office (Tel. 233).

FREEHOLD £5,950

HANTS. WILTS. BORDERS

A CAPITAL AGRICULTURAL AND SPORTING PROPERTY

640 ACRES

ATTRACTIVE 4-BEDROOMED FARMHOUSE, farm buildings and 2 cottages. Main electricity. Excellent water supply.

This is an excellent arable, T.T. Allocated Dairy and Mixed Farm adapted to modern methods, and the shooting is over some of the best partridge country in England.

PRICE £32,000 FREEHOLD (usual tenant right). VACANT POSSESSION Winchester Office (Tel. 3388).

COUNTRY PROPERTY REQUIRED IN HAMPSHIRE

Area up to 10 miles Winchester especially favoured.

GENUINE QUEEN ANNE OR EARLY GEORGIAN RESIDENCE. 7 beds, 2 baths, 3 rec. 35-40 ACRES, suitable for herd pedigree pigs, and at least 1 cottage essential. Mr. W. has £11,000 AVAILABLE.

USUAL COMMISSION REQUIRED
Winchester Office (Tel. 3388).

TO BE LET FURNISHED

Hartley Wintney (close)

WELL-FURNISHED MODERN RESIDENCE in choice situation available for about 1 year. 5 bed., 2 baths, nursery, 3 rec., etc. Central heating. RENT 10 GUINEAS PER WEEK, including gardener's wages. Hartley Wintney Office (Tel. 233).

MAIDENHEAD
SUNNINGDALE

GIDDY & GIDDY

WINDSOR, SLOUGH
GERRARDS CROSS

EARLEY, Nr. READING



An exceptionally well appointed Modern House built to the designs of the present owner with oak floors, etc. 4 bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, well-equipped kitchen, detached garage and lovely gardens.

FREEHOLD £4,450

GIDDY & GIDDY, Station Approach, Maidenhead (Tel. 53)

BUCKS-MIDDLESEX BORDERS

On the outskirts of a rural riverside village.



A small Country House in immaculate order. 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms and study, model kitchen with staff sitting room. Complete central heating. Garage and stabling with flat over (suitable for conversion to attractive cottage). Lovely gardens and paddock, 8½ ACRES.

For Sale at Auction DECEMBER 12, unless sold before. Sole Agents: GIDDY & GIDDY, Windsor. (Tel. 73).

By order of Mortgagees. Immediate sale essential. WITH A GATEWAY TO A GOLF COURSE



A luxuriously appointed House with 6-7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, central heating, double garage. Lovely gardens of about 2 ACRES. All offers considered for the freehold.

N.B.—The valuable furnishings will be sold by Public Auction today. GIDDY & GIDDY, Station Approach, Sunningdale. (Tel. Ascot 73).

65, HIGH STREET,
HASLEMERE, SURREY

ADAIR & CO.

AUCTIONEERS, SURVEYORS & ESTATE AGENTS

Telephone:
HASLEMERE 1160

10 & 12 PETWORTH ROAD, HASLEMERE

VALUABLE FREEHOLD PREMISES IN THE CENTRE OF HASLEMERE

First time in the market since 1919.

with 60-ft. frontage to the Petworth Road and return frontage having first-class display windows.

No. 10. 2 showrooms and office, 3 beds., k. and b., 2 rec., garage, garden.

No. 12. Showroom, office and k., 3 beds., 2 baths., k., and 2 rec., garden.

Beautiful example of Georgian architecture and features of that period.

PRICE £13,500 FREEHOLD

HASLEMERE

A most attractive architect-designed modern House with charming country aspect. 1½ miles station, near buses, etc.



4 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM, 2 RECEPTION ROOMS MAIN SERVICES. GARAGE. ABOUT 1¼ ACRES IN ALL. PRICE £4,750 FREEHOLD

NEAR HASLEMERE

CHARMING PERIOD PROPERTY

Surrounded by farm and woodland, yet just under 2 miles station, and close to shops, buses, etc.

4 BEDS., DRESSING ROOM, BATHROOM, ENTRANCE HALL, CLOAKROOM, STUDY, 2 RECEPTION ROOMS, COMPACT OFFICES 2 GARAGES

Garden about ¾ ACRE

PRICE £5,750
FREEHOLD

JOHN D. WOOD & CO.

A SELECTION OF COUNTRY HOUSES

WITHIN EASY DAILY REACH OF LONDON

DORKING (C.20,168)	5 principal bedrooms, dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, staff quarters with bath, lodge, flat. Paddocks, lake. 14 ACRES £12,000
BANSTEAD (B.2,462)	MODERN GEORGIAN STYLE. 7 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Cottage. Main services. 18½ ACRES
GUILDFORD (J.23,914)	FARMHOUSE STYLE. 7 bed., 2 dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms. Bungalow. 2 ACRES. £9,500
WENTWORTH, SURREY (J.23,067)	MODERN HOUSE WITH GATE TO GOLF COURSE. 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Main services. 3 ACRES. £9,500
ST. ALBANS (R.41,272)	COMPLETELY RURAL situation and beautifully fitted. 8 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Main electricity, central heating. 2 cottages. Attractive grounds. 10 ACRES.
MOOR PARK, HERTS (J.42,481)	MODERN GEORGIAN STYLE. 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Garden. Gate to Golf Course. £8,750
BROXBORNE (J.41,294)	WHITE PAINTED PERIOD HOUSE. 6 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms. Paddock. 7½ ACRES. £6,850

ALL THE ABOVE HAVE MAIN WATER AND ELECTRICITY.

RESIDENTIAL FARMS

SOUTH OF LONDON AND WITHIN EASY DAILY REACH

SUSSEX (H.3,573)	160 ACRES. LUXURIOUS 16th-CENTURY HOUSE. 10 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Main electricity and water, central heating. Balliff's house and 2 flats. T.T. buildings. Trout fishing.
SUSSEX (C.33,855)	168 ACRES. MODERNISED SUSSEX STYLE RESIDENCE. 4 bedrooms, bathroom. Main electricity and water. 2 cottages, well planned T.T. buildings.
SUSSEX (R.33,712)	115 ACRES. NEAR COAST. GEORGIAN HOUSE. Modernised, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Main electricity and water, central heating. Cottage and lodge. Attested farm.
SUSSEX (B.33,863)	128 ACRES. MODERN HOUSE, 5 bedrooms, central heating, main electricity and water. Farmhouse and 2 modern cottages. T.T. buildings.
SUSSEX (R.33,825)	44 ACRES. PERIOD HOUSE, modernised, 4 principal, 2 secondary bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Main electricity and water. Central heating. 2 good cottages.
SURREY—WEST SUSSEX (J.22,532)	237 ACRES. 16th-CENTURY FARMHOUSE, modernised and in excellent order. 7 bed., 4 bathrooms. Central heating. Main electricity. Secondary house, 6 cottages. T.T. buildings. Substantial Tax reliefs.
SURREY (B.23,081)	103 ACRES. OAK-BEAMED PERIOD FARMHOUSE, restored and modernised, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Central heating, main electricity and water. 2 modern cottages; 2 bungalows. Buildings for dairy herd, piggeries, battery for 3,000 hens.
SURREY (J.23,080)	52 ACRES. MODERN GEORGIAN-STYLE HOUSE, 6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. All main services. Bungalow; 2 cottages also available if required. Dairy farm and modern piggeries. Suitable for Stud.
SURREY (J.23,087)	76 ACRES. 16th-CENTURY PERIOD FARMHOUSE, modernised, 4 bedrooms, bathroom. Main electricity and water. Cottage. T.T. buildings.
KENT (R.33,414)	100 ACRES. MODERN HOUSE, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Main electricity and water. 5 cottages. Fruit farm, with packing station, storage and refrigeration plant.
KENT (J.30,632)	190 ACRES. 17th-CENTURY HOUSE IN FIRST-CLASS ORDER, well proportioned rooms, 7 bed., 3 bathrooms. Central heating, main electricity. 2 good cottages; flat. Modern stock buildings. Substantial tax reliefs.
KENT (H.31,446)	40 ACRES. NEAR SEVENOAKS: TUDOR HOUSE in very good order. 7 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Main electricity and water, central heating. Cottage, good T.T. buildings.

44, ST. JAMES'S
PLACE, S.W.1.

STYLES, WHITLOCK & PETERSEN

(Formerly JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, LONDON)

HYDe Park
0911-2-3-4WEST SUSSEX/HAMPSHIRE BORDER
FOR SALE: A MODERN, GEORGIAN-STYLE COUNTRY RESIDENCE

IN FIRST-RATE ORDER

400 ft. above sea level, southern aspect, panoramic views of South Downs, close to bus service and 2½ miles from small market town with fast train service to London and South Coast. Light soil.

ACCOMMODATION: HALL AND 3 SITTING ROOMS, 6 BEDROOMS, 3 BATH-ROOMS AND USUAL OFFICES, AGA COOKER.

Janitor boiler. Main electricity and power. Company's water. Partial central heating.

GARAGE FOR 2 CARS

simple gardens, terrace, lawns, etc., and tract of woodland.

TOTAL AREA ABOUT 10 ACRES

PRICE FREEHOLD £8,000

Inspected and recommended by the Sole Agents: STYLES, WHITLOCK & PETERSEN, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1. (L.R. 27,799)

DORSET BORDER



EXCELLENT STONE-BUILT COUNTRY RESIDENCE outside the village in a delightful high situation, facing south with beautiful views. Hall, with galleried staircase, 3 sitting rooms, 7 bed. (basins), 2 bath. (basins), cloakroom, excellent offices. Main electricity and power. Garage. Stabling. Simple gardens, with lawns, walled garden, orchard and 2 paddocks. ABOUT 7½ ACRES. PRICE £5,450. Owner's Agents: STYLES, WHITLOCK & PETERSEN, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1. (L.R. 25,461)

Tel.: Horsham 111 (3 lines)

KING & CHASEMORE

CHARTERED SURVEYORS

HORSHAM
SUSSEX

HORSHAM, SUSSEX

In a private park, 1 mile south of the town. London only 55 minutes by electric train.

A HANDSOME COUNTRY RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER



Completely modernised throughout.

Entrance hall, cloakroom, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, 4 bedrooms, bathroom.

All main services.

Central heating.

Large garage.

Most pleasant garden.

TO LET UNFURNISHED ON LEASE WITH OPT. ON TO PURCHASE

Sole Agents: KING & CHASEMORE, Horsham (Tel. 111).

BETWEEN HORSHAM AND GUILDFORD
A VERY PICTURESQUE SMALL GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

3 bedrooms (h. and c.), bathroom, 2 reception rooms, kitchen.

Main water and electricity. Garage. Garden.

PRICE FREEHOLD £3,750

Sole Agents: KING & CHASEMORE, Horsham (Tel. 111).

WENDOVER, BUCKS.

A GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

in the centre of this delightful small town.

6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, usual domestic offices. Large garage and outbuildings. Walled garden, ABOUT ¼ ACRE

All main services.

PRICE FREEHOLD £5,750. VACANT POSSESSION

Sole Agents: KING & CHASEMORE, Horsham (Tel. 111).

BETWEEN HORSHAM AND HAYWARDS HEATH

Haywards Heath 6 miles.

A VERY LOVELY OLD TUDOR COTTAGE RESIDENCE

5 bed. and dressing rooms, bathroom, cloakroom, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, etc.

Main water and electricity. Full central heating.

Garage and playroom.

Old-world garden, orchard, small belt of woodland, and other land, in all about 5 ACRES. PRICE FREEHOLD £7,250 (offers considered for quick sale).

Inspected and strongly recommended by the Owner's Sole Agents:

KING AND CHASEMORE, Horsham (Tel. 111).

56, BAKER STREET
LONDON, W.1

DRUCE & Co. Ltd.

ESTABLISHED 1822
WELbeck 4485 (20 lines)

BERKS-HANTS BORDERS

Between Basingstoke and Reading.



ATTRACTIVE FREEHOLD PROPERTY. Recently modernised and redecorated. Comprising: 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, 2 brick garages. Garden (further 1½ acres available). Strongly recommended.

PRICE £5,250 FREEHOLD (C.523)

WESTERHAM, KENT. 17th-CENTURY PERIOD COTTAGE which has recently been modernised. 2 bedrooms, 1 reception room, bathroom and kitchen. R.V. £12. PRICE £2,000 FREEHOLD

NR. MIDHURST, SUSSEX. ATTRACTIVE PERIOD PROPERTY recently modernised and redecorated. 3 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, kitchen. Garage. Garden. Near golf course. PRICE £4,250 FREEHOLD

NR. FAVERSHAM, KENT. DELIGHTFUL DETACHED PROPERTY in excellent condition. 4 bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, kitchen. Garage. Garden with tennis court, in all ½ ACRE. BARGAIN PRICE FOR QUICK SALE. PRICE £1,900 FREEHOLD

NR. CREDITON, DEVON. ATTRACTIVE THATCHED GEORGIAN HOUSE on two floors. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, kitchen. Garage. Thatched barn. Garden ½ ACRE. Lovely views over Exmoor. PRICE £2,700 FREEHOLD

RICKMANSWORTH, HERTS

London 30 minutes.



MODERN DETACHED RESIDENCE in this much sought after neighbourhood. 3 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, kitchen. Garage. Garden approx. ½ ACRE. Strongly recommended.

PRICE £3,950 FREEHOLD (C.524)

R. B. TAYLOR & SONS

16, PRINCES STREET, YEOVIL (Tel. 2074-6); SHERBORNE (99); BRIDGWATER (3456-7); 16, MAGDALEN STREET, EXETER (56043)

TAUNTON—AXMINSTER (BETWEEN)

600 ft. above sea level, facing south.

A CHARMING PERIOD COTTAGE

2 rec., kitchen, 3 beds., dressing room, bathroom and w.c. Garage, old-world garden and small paddock.

£4,400 SECURES

Apply Yeovil.

IN THE NOTED TAUNTON VALE

BEAUTIFULLY SITUATED

RESIDENTIAL DAIRY FARM OF 62 ACRES

in a ring fence.

CHARMING RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER, carefully modernised and having 3 rec., 5 bed., 2 bath., modern domestic offices. Compact pleasure garden. Garage. Modernised range of T.T. farm buildings including stalls for 33, loose boxes, Dutch barn, etc.

Rich fertile pasture land in very good heart.

Excellent sporting and social amenities.

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION £15,500

Apply Yeovil.

OUTSKIRTS OF BRUTON

IDEAL FAMILY RESIDENCE

3 rec., kitchen, 5 beds., bath and w.c., 2 garages, garden and paddock.

£4,500 OR OFFER

Apply Yeovil

NEAR SHERBORNE

EXCEPTIONAL OPPORTUNITY TO ACQUIRE

A CHARMING BUNGALOW RESIDENCE

3 beds., bath., 2 rec., etc. Garage. Good garden. Main services. Extra land available.

Close Sherborne Park.

Recommended by the Sole Agents, as above. Apply Yeovil.

SPARKFORD VALE

DELIGHTFUL QUEEN ANNE RESIDENCE

2½ rec., kitchen, 5 beds., bathroom and w.c. Useful outbuildings. 2 Garages. Staff flat. 2 Cottages. Main electricity. Oil-fired central heating.

5½ ACRES IN ALL. VACANT POSSESSION OF THE WHOLE

Apply Yeovil.

Tel. (3 lines)
GROsvenor 3121

WINKWORTH & CO.

48, CURZON STREET,
LONDON, W.1

EAST BERKSHIRE

In a choice residential area, about 30 miles from London. Within easy reach of Ascot and Windsor Great Park.

A LUXURIOUSLY EQUIPPED COUNTRY HOUSE OF GEORGIAN CHARACTER

All on 2 floors, standing on high ground with extensive views over the FINE LAKE AND WELL-TIMBERED PARK

Special features include OAK FLOORS, PERIOD FIREPLACE and DECORATED CORNICES; 5 principal bedroom suites.

OIL-FIRED CENTRAL HEATING and HOT WATER. MAIN WATER AND ELECTRICITY

Beautiful timbered grounds with HARD TENNIS COURT, SWIMMING POOL and pavilion in the centre of the

COMPACT ESTATE OF OVER 500 ACRES

In a ring fence with walled kitchen garden, greenhouses, ample outbuildings and cottages.

TWO SETS OF FARM BUILDINGS SUITABLE FOR PEDIGREE ATTESTED HERD

FREEHOLD FOR SALE PRIVATELY

Confidently recommended by the Owner's Agents: WINKWORTH & Co., 48, Curzon Street, London, W.1 (Tel.: GROsvenor 3121).

22, KING STREET,
ST. JAMES'S, S.W.1

GODDARD & SMITH

Whitehall
2721 (20 lines)

BERKSHIRE

3 miles south of Maidenhead.

A PERFECTLY CHARMING OLD-WORLD COTTAGE RESIDENCE

Set in a beautiful orchard garden of 1½ ACRES



FREEHOLD £6,750

A very lovely home of brick and timber, re-constructed of old materials.

5 BEDROOMS, MAID'S ROOM, BATHROOM, LOUNGE WITH DINING RECESS, STUDY, LARGE HALL, CLOAKROOM, KITCHEN, ETC.

GARAGE FOR 3 CARS.

(Sole Agents.)

BETWEEN READING AND TWYFORD

VERY ATTRACTIVE CHALET BUNGALOW

On knoll amidst rural surroundings and in a large and charming garden of 1¼ ACRES (more land available)

3 bedrooms, splendid bathroom, 2 reception rooms, breakfast room, large lounge hall, kitchen, and staff wing of bedroom, bathroom, secondary kitchen.

GARAGE

OFFICE

WORKSHOP



FREEHOLD £6,500

WINCHESTER

JAMES HARRIS & SON

Telephone 2355

HAMPSHIRE

5 miles south of Alton, with electric train service to London in 1½ hours.

PRACTICALLY ADJOINING NATIONAL TRUST PROPERTY. IN THE H.M. COUNTRY

COUNTRY RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER

of the William and Mary period with Regency addition.

ENTRANCE HALL, 4 RECEPTION ROOMS,

CLOAKROOM, 9 BEDROOMS,

2 DRESSING ROOMS, 3 BATHROOMS,

DOMESTIC OFFICES WITH AGA COOKER.



Main electricity. Main water.

Central heating.

CHARMING WALLED GARDEN

TENNIS COURT

CHAUFFEUR'S COTTAGE, DOUBLE GARAGE

AND STABLES

IN ALL ABOUT 5 ACRES

FREEHOLD £8,500

Particulars from the Sole Agents: Messrs. JAMES HARRIS & SON, Jewry Chambers, Winchester. Telephone 2355.

32, QUEEN STREET,
MAIDENHEAD

L. DUDLEY CLIFTON & SON

Tel.:
Maidenhead 62 and 63

600 FT. UP ON THE CHILTERN'S ABOVE MARLOW

In a pretty hamlet.



DETACHED COUNTRY COTTAGE. 4 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, loggia. Garage. Good outbuildings. Charming secluded garden of 1½ ACRES. Main electricity and water. All in excellent order. For SALE FREEHOLD preferably including all the contents. (Ref. 242).

Agents: L. DUDLEY CLIFTON & SON, as above.

IN A REALLY RURAL SETTING IN NORTH BUCKS

3 miles Buckingham.



DETACHED OLD-WORLD COUNTRY COTTAGE. Large lounge, kitchen, bathroom, 2 quaint bedrooms. Pretty garden of easy maintenance, with garage space. Main electricity and water. PRICE £1,750 FREEHOLD (Ref. 176).

Agents: L. DUDLEY CLIFTON & SON, as above.

BUCKS. 25 MILES LONDON

In centre of old-world village.



GEORGIAN VILLAGE HOUSE. 6/7 bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, sun lounge. Double garage. At present a high-class club, but ideal for private residence or for professional purposes. PRICE FREEHOLD £5,950 WITH POSSESSION. (Ref. 83).

Agents: L. DUDLEY CLIFTON & SON, as above.

BOURNEMOUTH
SOUTHAMPTON

FOX & SONS

BRIGHTON
WORTHING

CLOSE YACHTING FACILITIES

Adjoining the New Forest in a secluded and sheltered position yet adjoining bus services. Brockenhurst 6 miles.

COTTAGE RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER



In excellent order and with large reception rooms.

3/4 bedrooms, bathroom, lounge 21 ft. by 19 ft., 2 other reception rooms, cloakroom, kitchen with Agamatic.

Main electricity and water. Small secondary cottage.

2 garages. Other outbuildings. Pleasant garden with adjoining paddocks intersected by a stream.

IN ALL ABOUT 4½ ACRES

FOX & SONS, 32, London Road, Southampton. Tel. 25155 (4 lines).

By order of Executors.

AN UNUSUAL OPPORTUNITY TO ACQUIRE A SMALL LUXURY HOUSE HOVE



Overlooking park and convenient for station and shops.

This attractive Detached Freehold Residence built under contract in 1954.

3 bedrooms (2 h. and c.), half-tiled bathroom, sep. w.c., oak-paneled dining room, spacious lounge, oak-paneled hall, cloakroom, labour-saving kitchen (gas-fired boiler). Integral garage. Small secluded garden with greenhouse.

Auction Sale, December 8, Old Ship Hotel, Brighton.

Solicitors: Messrs. PIERCE & SONS, 73, Cheapside, London, E.C.2.

Auctioneers: FOX & SONS, 117 and 118, Western Road, Brighton. Tel.: Hove 39201 (7 lines).

SUSSEX

EXCEPTIONALLY WELL-APPOINTED RESIDENCE IN SOUTH DOWNS FOXHUNT COUNTRY. 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, cloakroom, 3 good reception rooms, staff room, well-equipped kitchen. Main electricity and water. Central heating. Excellent stabling. Double garage. Swimming pool, tennis lawn. Garden of about 1 ACRE (more land possibly available). PRICE £4,950 FREEHOLD, OR NEAR OFFER. Apply: Brighton Office.

MID-SUSSEX. HAYWARDS HEATH 6 MILES

EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE PERIOD COTTAGE with thatched roof. 4 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, kitchen. Main services. Garage. Delightful garden with paddock, IN ALL ABOUT 1½ ACRES. PRICE £4,950 FREEHOLD. Apply: Brighton Office.

EAST SUSSEX. ONLY 5 MILES HASTINGS

ATTRACTIVE SMALL FARMERY WITH RESIDENCE. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, kitchen. Self-contained staff accommodation. Central heating. Main electricity. Good farm buildings, including garage, barn, cowhouse, stabling, pigsties, etc. 14½ ACRES. PRICE £7,500 FREEHOLD. Apply: Brighton Office.

Apply: FOX & SONS, 117 and 118, Western Road, Brighton. Tel.: Hove 39201 (7 lines).

IN THE CENTRE OF THE CITY OF SALISBURY
AN EXCEPTIONAL OPPORTUNITY TO PURCHASE A VALUABLE
PROPERTY EMINENTLY SUITABLE FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES



8 bedrooms, 2 dressing rooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, good domestic offices.

Garage.

Main services.

Pleasant garden adjoining the house.

PRICE £10,000 FREEHOLD

FOX & SONS, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. Tel. 6300.

DORSET

Overlooking the River Stour and its Valley, with distant views to hills beyond. 4 miles Blandford. 12 miles Poole Harbour.

A CHARMING RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER



5 bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, kitchen with Esso cooker and water heater.

DOUBLE GARAGE
STORE HOUSES

Main electricity, gas and water.

The gardens are a feature of the property and for the most part are terraced and extend to an area of nearly 2 ACRES.

PRICE £5,500 FREEHOLD

FOX & SONS, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. Tel. 6300.

WAREHAM, DORSET

Standing on high ground with fine views over the Purbeck Hills and Corfe Castle.

A WELL-BUILT DETACHED RESIDENCE

5 bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, large hall, cloakroom, servants' sitting room, kitchen.

Double brick garage.

Main electricity and water. The garden is laid out chiefly as lawns with flower borders and amount

to nearly THREE-QUARTERS-OF-AN-ACRE



PRICE £3,750 FREEHOLD

FOX & SONS, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. Tel. 6300.

EASTERN OUTSKIRTS OF SOUTHAMPTON

Close to a small market town and within a short distance of good bus services.

GEORGIAN FARMHOUSE RESIDENCE

4 principal and 2 secondary bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge 28 ft. by 13 ft., dining room, cloakroom, half-tiled kitchen with Agamatic, staff room.

Main services.

Garden and paddock of about ONE ACRE.

Would readily divide into 2 units, if desired.



PRICE £3,950 FREEHOLD

FOX & SONS, 32, London Road, Southampton. Tel. 25155 (4 lines).

SUSSEX. NEAR UCKFIELD

EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE PERIOD RESIDENCE WITH MODEL FARMERY. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, well-equipped kitchen. Main electricity and water. Excellent modern buildings with standings for 8 cows. Modern cottage. 16 ACRES. VACANT POSSESSION OF THE WHOLE. PRICE £12,500 FREEHOLD. Apply: Brighton Office.

EXCELLENT GRASS FARM, ONLY 5 MILES FROM
HAYWARDS HEATH

PERIOD FARMHOUSE. 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, kitchen. Garage. Modern cottage. Main electricity and water. Excellent range of farm buildings, including cowstalls for 14, Dutch barn, loose boxes, barn and stockyard. 50 ACRES. PRICE £13,000 FREEHOLD. Apply: Brighton Office.

WEST SUSSEX. HORSHAM 6 MILES

EXCELLENT RESIDENTIAL ESTATE having an ATTRACTIVE MODERNISED SUSSEX FARMHOUSE-STYLE RESIDENCE. 8 bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, entrance hall. Main electric light and water. Good range of farm buildings, comprising barn, milking parlour, loose boxes, etc. Excellent range of piggeries of brick and tile for 500 pigs and deep litter accommodation for 1,500 poultry. The land extends in all to approximately 167 ACRES. Pair of cottages. PRICE £17,000 FREEHOLD. Apply: Brighton Office.

SOUTH HANTS YACHTING CENTRE

Occupying a magnificent site with extensive river frontage. Private pier and bathing beach.

SUPERIOR RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER

4 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms, sun lounge, 3 reception rooms, cloakroom, domestic offices.

Staff flat.

Main electricity. Main water.

Garage for 3 cars.

Other outbuildings.



Attractive and easily maintained grounds of ABOUT 5 ACRES
FOX & SONS, 32, London Road, Southampton. Tel. 25155 (4 lines).

SOUTH HAMPSHIRE

About 1 mile from main line station and short distance from the New Forest.
NICELY SITUATED SMALL RESIDENCE

Standing in well-wooded grounds.

4 bedrooms, bathroom, lounge (18 ft. by 12 ft.), dining room, sitting room, kitchen, cloaks.

Main electricity and water.

GARAGE

Outbuildings. Pony shed. Secluded grounds, orchard and woodlands, 2 ACRES



PRICE £5,100 FREEHOLD

FOX & SONS, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. Tel. 6300.

SACKVILLE HOUSE,
40, PICCADILLY, W.1
(Entrance in Sackville Street)

F. L. MERCER & CO.

SPECIALISTS IN THE DISPOSAL OF COUNTRY HOUSES

Telephone: 2481
REQent 2482
2295

HERTFORDSHIRE AND BUCKINGHAMSHIRE BORDER. 22 MILES LONDON

Close to Chorleywood Common and golf course, and within easy reach of Moor Park.

AN EASILY RUN COUNTRY RESIDENCE IN THE GEORGIAN COLONIAL STYLE OF ARCHITECTURE



Of special appeal to those wishing to live in healthful rural surroundings within easy daily reach of the City (50 minutes) or West End (under 45 minutes).

ENTIRELY LABOUR-SAVING

On 2 floors facing south and approached by a drive.

Hall and cloakroom, unusually fine drawing room with gallery, 3 other reception rooms including billiards or games room, American oak floors. Maid's room. Principal bedroom, dressing room and bathroom. 4 other bedrooms and second bathroom.

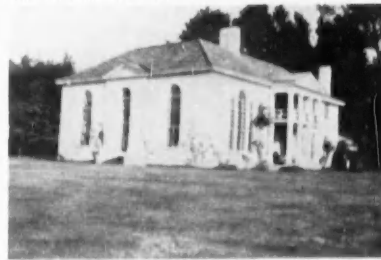
Portico with sun loggia and sleeping porch.

LARGE GARAGE

Simply maintained grounds with well-kept lawn, flowering shrubs and valuable paddock, including orchard.

FREEHOLD FOR SALE WITH 4½ OR 2½ ACRES

Quite out of the ordinary and highly recommended by the Agents, F. L. MERCER & Co.



WITH GATEWAY TO ROYAL ASHDOWN FOREST GOLF COURSE

One of the most beautiful parts of Sussex.
Between East Grinstead and Tunbridge Wells.



FOR SALE WITH 2, 4 OR 8 ACRES mostly woodland with magnificent forest trees.

AN EXTREMELY ATTRACTIVE MODERN HOUSE

on a private estate one mile from Forest Row. 3 receptions, 5 or 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Complete central heating. Main electricity, gas and water.

Double garage. Beautiful mixed woodland which is well cleared round the house.

£7,000 WITH 2 ACRES. Extra land by arrangement.

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., as above.

NEW FOREST BETWEEN LYNDRUST AND ROMSEY

Secluded and protected position.

Handy for Salisbury, Winchester and Bournemouth.

A HOUSE MAINLY OF THE GEORGIAN AND VICTORIAN ERAS With spacious but not too many rooms. 33 ft. drawing room with oak parquet floor, 2 other receptions, cloakroom, 5 large bedrooms, 2 dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms. Cooking by Esse. Complete central heating from oil-fired boiler. Main water. Own electric light but main expected early 1956. Double garage. Grandly timbered gardens, orchard, woodland and small paddock. WITH 3½ ACRES

£5,850

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., as above.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT

Molyneux Park area. Easily accessible to the common, station and shops.

AN EXCELLENT HOUSE IN FIRST-CLASS CONDITION with bright and sunny interior. 3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom. Main services. Good garage. Easily run garden.

PRICE FREEHOLD £3,500. MORTGAGE AVAILABLE

WITH 55 ACRES. FARMLAND, WOODS AND ROUGH SHOOTING IN EAST SUSSEX. 7 MILES COAST

Nearest centres of importance are Battle, Hastings and Rye.

UNIQUE SEMI-BUNGALOW

in a lovely setting. Sitting room, dining room, loggia, good kitchen/breakfast room, bathroom and 2 bedrooms downstairs and 2 bedrooms above. Rayburn cooker.

Lighting by Color gas. Garage. Various buildings. Land lies compactly together in a ring fence and includes over 25 acres of mixed woodland with rough shooting; pheasant, partridge and woodcock. Rates under £10 a year.



Ideal property and position for country retirement
FOR SALE AT £5,000. A GENUINE BARGAIN

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., as above.

WEST SUSSEX

BETWEEN PULBOROUGH AND ARUNDEL

In picturesque old village. Off main road. Views of South Downs and Bury Hill. A MOST CAPTIVATING COTTAGE HOME mostly 350 years old. Restored, enlarged and modernised at considerable cost. Lounge, dining room, 3 bedrooms, modern bathroom and kitchen. Wealth of oak beams but no low ceilings. In excellent decorative order. Main water, electric light and power. Garage. Rates under £10 for half year. Pretty garden and small paddock. A PROPERTY WITH A LOT OF CHARM. ABOUT 1 ACRE. FOR SALE AT £4,250

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., as above.

ONE HOUR LONDON VIA HASLEMERE (6 MILES)

West Surrey beauty spot near the Devil's Jumps. 400 feet above sea level on sandy soil. Lovely setting, will appeal to lovers of trees and the moorland type of country.

ARCHITECT-DESIGNED HOUSE ERECTED 1928 BY BEST BUILDERS IN DISTRICT. Lounge, dining room, sun room, 5 bedrooms, 2 baths and dressing room. (On 2 floors.) Central heating. Main services. 2 garages. SWIMMING POOL OF ARTISTIC DESIGN. Pretty, terraced garden. WOODLAND AND HEATHER PLANTATION. FOR SALE WITH 2 ACRES

OVERLOOKING PART OF ST. GEORGE'S HILL GOLF COURSE

On this exclusive private estate at Weybridge.

A HOME OF MEDIUM SIZE AND VERY CHARMING CHARACTER

SURREY. 18 MILES LONDON

Half an hour from Waterloo.



ARCHITECT-DESIGNED HOUSE OF THE HIGHEST QUALITY. Built 1935 on a site chosen for seclusion, convenience of access and its delightful views.

3 receptions (2 are inter-communicating, with an entire length of about 40 ft.), oak strip floors, 6 bedrooms (basins), 3 bathrooms, large games room in the roof space.

Complete central heating. Aga cooker, Agamatic boiler. Main services.

Double Garage.

FOR SALE WITH 1½ ACRES

Cultivated and semi-wild garden, a feast of colour in the spring and summer.
Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., as above.



ONE OF THE BEST POSITIONS AT OXSHOTT, SURREY

A PROPERTY OF INFINITE CHARM AND CHARACTER

Near extensive commons and woods. 5 minutes' walk station with trains to Waterloo 28 minutes. Particularly well equipped and beautifully decorated modern residence, the subject of considerable expenditure and in faultless condition.

3 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms. Central heating. All main services. Double garage.

Opportunity for the purchaser of discerning taste seeking a small but perfect home. Colourful garden nearly 1 ACRE

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., 40, Piccadilly, W.1. Tel. REQent 2481.

WARLINGHAM. ON THE SURREY HILLS

On rising ground commanding distant views. Only 5 minutes' walk from the station with frequent electric trains to City and West End, 35 minutes. Within easy reach lovely countryside, commons and woods. Bus service and shops few minutes.

EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE HOUSE BUILT TO MODERN DESIGN

Bright and cheerful interior with large window space admitting the maximum of sun. Excellent joinery including polished hard wood floors almost throughout; panelled walls and flush doors. Hall and cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, 3 bedrooms, luxury bathroom, model kitchen with modern sink unit.

Main services.

Large garage.

Paved sun terrace.



Well-laid out sloping gardens with specimen flowering shrubs.
PRICE FREEHOLD £5,000 WITH ¾ ACRE OR £6,600 WITH 1½ ACRES
Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., 40, Piccadilly, W.1. Tel. REQent 2481.

Tel. MAYfair
0023-4**R. C. KNIGHT & SONS**130, MOUNT STREET,
LONDON, W.1

Messrs. R. C. KNIGHT & SONS, Chartered Auctioneers and Estate Agents, have received the following applications from bona fide prospective Purchasers seeking the type of property described.

LONDON RESIDENT wishing to move to the country in Spring, 1956, is **SEEKING A COUNTRY HOUSE OF CHARACTER IN WILTS, HANTS, W. BERKS or W. SUSSEX.** 3 reception, 5-7 bedrooms, 2 or more bathrooms. Staff cottage essential. Land up to 100 acres. **PRICE ABOUT £10,000.** Applicant J.M.**REQUIRED WITHIN 5 MILE RADIUS OF BISHOP'S STORTFORD, GENUINE PERIOD RESIDENCE WITH 3 rec., 4-5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, etc. and land for seclusion up to 2 acres.** Applicant J.A.B.**WANTED IN HANTS, WILTS, WEST SUSSEX OR OXON. RESIDENTIAL FARM OF 100 TO 200 ACRES** with Georgian Residence, containing: 3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms and 2 or more bathrooms. Two or more cottages essential. Possession required by Ladyday, 1956. Applicant V.M.B.**EAST ANGLIA**

A keen Purchaser is seeking for his private occupation

AN AGRICULTURAL ESTATE OF SOME 2,000 ACRES**GEORGIAN OR QUEEN ANNE RESIDENCE**

4 reception, 10-12 bedrooms, etc.

At least 500 acres of the estate must be in hand. Good shooting district essential. Applicant C.

TRUSTEES ARE ANXIOUS TO PURCHASE AN OUTSTANDING GEORGIAN OR QUEEN ANNE RESIDENCE in NORFOLK (south of Norwich) OR SUFFOLK. 3 reception rooms 8-10 bedrooms, 3 or more bathrooms together with Home Farm up to 250 acres. Vacant possession of whole required in Spring or by latest June 1956. Applicant W.J.L.**WANTED WITHIN EASY REACH OF HASLEMERE, FARNHAM (SURREY) OR HAYWARDS HEATH. A SMALL COUNTRY HOUSE OF CHARACTER WITH ABOUT 5 ACRES of paddock.** 3 reception rooms, 5-7 bedrooms. **PRICE ABOUT £7,500.** Applicant R.N.**WANTED WITHIN EASY REACH OF LONDON OR BASINGSTOKE, COUNTRY RESIDENCE OF CONSIDERABLE SIZE SUITABLE FOR CONVERSION TO FLATS OR SMALLER HOUSES.** Land and cottages an advantage. Applicant R.A.And at **NORWICH, STOWMARKET, BURY ST. EDMUNDS, CAMBRIDGE, HADLEIGH and HOLT****GASCOIGNE-PEES****SURBITON, LEATHERHEAD, DORKING, REIGATE, GUILDFORD, EPSOM****CHARMING COTTAGE WING**

which being on corner site would suit Doctor or Dentist.

In wonderfully convenient spot within quick reach of London (W'loo 16 mins.). Large lounge, cloakroom, spacious tiled kitchen, adjoining which is small room for maid or companion. Upstairs, 2 excellent bedrooms and bathroom. Set aside is games or hobby room. Newly decorated and ready for occupation.

£3,650 FREEHOLD

Apply: "Charter House," Surbiton, Elmbridge 4141.

EXCEPTIONALLY APPEALING

With many redeeming features.

A superior immaculately kept four-bedroomed modern residence occupying a choice position in select residential situation on London's S.W. fringe. 2 handsome reception rooms, hall with oak flooring, superbly equipped kitchen, luxurious three-quarter tiled bathroom with radiator. Delightfully displayed garden. Highly recommended at **£4,250 FREEHOLD.**

Apply: "Charter House," Surbiton, Elmbridge 4141.

LOVELY COUNTRY SURROUNDINGS

1½ miles main line station.

**PICTURESQUE COTTAGE RESIDENCE** built 20 years ago and in the market for the first time. Hall, cloakroom, "through" lounge, dining room, large kitchen, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, separate w.c., detached garage, greenhouse, 1 ACRE. **FREEHOLD £3,750**

Apply: 6, Church Street, Reigate. Tel. 4422-3.

COMFORTABLE**MODERN BUNGALOW**

With efficient central heating system.

IDEAL FOR ACTIVE RETIRED MAN. Well detached in 2 ACRES garden and orchard. Newly decorated throughout. Ample fitted cupboards. Good position on high ground between Bookham and Leatherhead. Fine views. 3 double bedrooms (2 with basins), 2 nice reception rooms with parquet floors, well-equipped kitchen, modern bathroom, sep. w.c. Detached garage. Large storeroom or workshop.**PRICE £5,250 FREEHOLD**

Apply: 4, Bridge Street, Leatherhead. Tel. 4133/4.

NOW BEING BUILT

Sought-after address in Fetcham Park, Leatherhead.

COMPLETE CENTRAL HEATING. Attractive style and sensibly planned detached house. 4 good bedrooms, 20 ft. lounge, dining room, nice hall with cloakroom, large well-equipped kitchen, tiled bathroom. Attached brick garage. ¼ ACRE garden.**PRICE £5,750 FREEHOLD**

Apply: 4, Bridge Street, Leatherhead. Tel. 4133/4.

LEWES, SUSSEX (Tel. 660-3)
UCKFIELD (Tel. 532-3)**ROWLAND GORRINGE & CO.**HURSTPIERPOINT (Tel. 2333-4)
DITCHLING (Tel. Hassocks 865)**LEWES 12 MILES—UNSURPASSED PARKLAND SETTING**

High above sea level with fine views. Occupying a beautifully timbered island site. NEAR VILLAGE AND BUS ROUTE. CLOSE EXCELLENT TRAIN SERVICE TO TOWN

THE EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

With well-proportioned rooms; has had up-to-date services installed; and very easily managed.

7 bed and 2 dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, arranged in suites. Staff rooms, hall and 3 receptions, cloak, kitchen with Aga.

Main c.d. and water. Complete central heating.

Model cowhouse and farm buildings at present housing a pedigree T.T. attested and grade A herd. Range of piggeries.

2 STAFF FLATS

Well-maintained garden with profusion of rhododendrons.

ABOUT 30 ACRES of productive land.**FREEHOLD FOR SALE WITH POSSESSION IN THE SPRING OF 1956**

FIRST TIME IN THE MARKET FOR 25 YEARS. Strongly recommended by the Sole Agents; Lewes. Tel. 660.

**SUSSEX**

Close country town easy reach Lewes and Haywards Heath.

**BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED RESIDENCE IN TUDOR STYLE.** Splendid order. 5 beds, bathroom, 3 recep., hall and cloakroom, Aga cooker, Central heating. Main services. Garage. Charming grounds, about 2 Acres.

Ward tennis court. Recommended at realistic price.

Uckfield Office. (Folio 5038)

25, HIGH STREET
C. M. STANFORD & SON Tel. 3165
COLCHESTER
COUNTRY PROPERTIES IN ESSEX & SUFFOLK**LONDON 80 MINUTES**

A miles Colchester and Marks Tey Stations.

**ABOUT 25 ACRES**, part of which is suitable for market garden.

Full details from the Sole Agents, as above.

ACCREDITED POULTRY FARM. In a high position amid delightful countryside on the **ESSEX-SUFFOLK BORDER.** 11 miles Colchester. Attractive and comfortable residence providing: 5 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception, cloakroom, breakfast room and kitchen. Main electricity. Two sets buildings, in excellent repair. Arable and grassland **20 ACRES. FREEHOLD ONLY** **£4,500**, or as a going concern **£6,000** all in.**AN OUTSTANDING PERIOD RESIDENCE** built in the style of a Manor House. Occupying one of the most attractive positions in the district.

5 principal bedrooms, 2 dressing rooms (h. and c.), 3 well-fitted bathrooms, 4 excellent reception rooms. Compact offices.

Main services.

Central heating.

Beautifully timbered garden with ornamental lakes and woodland.

CLARKE, GAMMON & EMERYS
GUILDFORD GODALMING HINDHEAD LIPHOOK**IDEAL FOR DAILY TRAVEL TO LONDON**
THREE FIRST-CLASS GOLF COURSES IN THE LOCALITY
RURAL SITUATION: near GUILDFORD, SURREY

Good southerly views from principal rooms: near main-line station for Waterloo.

ON 2 LEVEL FLOORS

Hall, cloakroom, 2 reception rooms, 2 bathrooms, 5 bedrooms. COMPLETE

CENTRAL HEATING

Independent domestic hot water.

Main water and electricity.

Oak floors and doors to ground floor.

Garage, large store (or second garage).

1 ACRE established gardens, brick terrace and paths, fish pond, good

trees and shrubs.

Small orchard, terraced rock garden, 3 pools.

**PRICE FREEHOLD £7,750**

Recommended by the Sole Agents: CLARKE, GAMMON & EMERYS, 71, High Street, Guildford (Tel. 2266-7-8).

Lewes
Ipswich
Builth Wells
Beaulieu

STRUTT & PARKER LOFTS & WARNER

HEAD OFFICE: 41, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.1 (GRO. 3056).

Chelmsford
Oxford
Plymouth
Andover

HERTFORDSHIRE

½ mile Welwyn North Station. London in 35 mins. by frequent train service.

Situated in a very pleasant part of Hertfordshire with delightful gardens and grounds



4 reception, 5 bedrooms, 2 dressing rooms, 3 staff bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Modern domestic offices. Central heating. Main water, electricity and gas. Modern drainage. COTTAGE with 2 reception, 2 bedrooms and bathroom. Excellent garage and stabling, with flat over. Gardens and paddock.

IN ALL ABOUT 6½ ACRES

FOR SALE AT A REDUCED PRICE

Apply: Head Office, as above.

SUSSEX

In a lovely position high up and on outskirts of village.

A FASCINATING TUDOR RESIDENCE



Beautifully restored, modernised and in excellent order. 2 HALLS, 4 RECEPTION, 5 BEDROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS. Main electricity and gas. Good water supply. Septic tank drainage.

FINE OLD OAK TIMBERS (not low ceilings), odd tiled roof. Interesting example of Sussex architecture of about A.D. 1550. Lovely garden. Useful outbuildings.

IN ALL ABOUT 6 ACRES

FOR SALE

Apply: Head Office, as above.

SURREY—VIRGINIA WATER

London 35 minutes by excellent train service. Occupying a quiet and secluded position on the well-known Wentworth Estate.

EXCEPTIONALLY WELL FITTED MODERN HOUSE

in first-class order throughout.

3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 staff rooms and 3rd bathroom.

Central heating throughout.

ALL MAIN SERVICES. GARAGE FOR 2-3 CARS

Landscape garden, well-stocked and easily maintained.

IN ALL ABOUT 2 ACRES



FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Apply: Head Office, as above.

AT THE LOW PRICE OF £7,000

HOUSE AND GARDENS OF 3 ACRES £4,500

WILTSHIRE DOWNS—400 ft. up in Wylye Valley. Warminster 3 miles. Westbury main-line junction 7 miles. London under 2 hours.

Charming Period House of Elizabethan origin. MODERNISED AND IN EXCELLENT ORDER THROUGHOUT

Hall, 3 reception rooms, 6 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms.

Main electricity. Garage for 3 cars with flat over. 2 cottages.

T.T. attested farmery. Unusually fine gardens with swimming pool.

3 paddocks. **IN ALL 10 ACRES**



FOR SALE

Joint Sole Agents: PURNELL, DANIELL & MORRELL, Marine Place, Seaton, Devon, and STRUTT & PARKER LOFTS & WARNER, Head Office, as above.

WANTED FOR CLIENT

AGRICULTURAL ESTATE AS AN INVESTMENT

HOUSE FOR OWNER'S OCCUPATION (reasonably modern) 6 BEDROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS. 2 GOOD COTTAGES. SOME STABLING

FARM 300-400 ACRES PREFERABLY LET

AREAS: SUSSEX, SOUTH SURREY TO EAST HAMPSHIRE WITHIN DAILY REACH OF LONDON

A GOOD PRICE WILL BE PAID FOR THE RIGHT PROPERTY

NO COMMISSION REQUIRED

Replies, which will be treated in strict confidence, to: D.S. STRUTT & PARKER LOFTS & WARNER, 201, High Street, Lewes, Sussex (Tel. Lewes 1425).

TWO COUNTRY HOUSE FURNITURE AUCTIONS TO BE HELD ON THE PROPERTIES EARLY IN DECEMBER

SUSSEX

EWHRST PLACE, NEAR ROBERTSBRIDGE

SALE OF ANTIQUE AND MODERN FURNITURE AND OTHER EFFECTS INCLUDING:

A Dutch marquetry Bookcase, Oak Dining-room Appointments, a Baby Grand Piano, a Broadwood, Settees, Easy Chairs, Bedroom Suites, Chests of Drawers, Indian and Axminster Carpets, Curtains, Linen, Porcelain, Cut Glass, Ornamental Items, Glasses, Pictures, Books, Refrigerators, Household and Outside Effects.

WHICH WILL BE SOLD BY PUBLIC AUCTION ON THE PREMISES ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1955, COMMENCING AT 10.30 a.m.

View Days: Friday and Saturday, December 9 and 10, from 10 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Catalogues, price 6d., obtainable from the Auctioneers, Head Office, as above, or 201, High Street, Lewes (Tel. 1425).

ESSEX

CANTERBURY'S, MARGARETTING, NR. CHELMSFORD

SALE OF ANTIQUE AND MODERN FURNITURE, INCLUDING:

A Louis XVI Commode, Mahogany Bookcases, Dining Tables, Sideboards, Chests of Drawers, Carpets. A Regency Cut Glass Chandelier. Old Crown Derby Tea and Dessert Services, Cut Glass, Ornamental Brasses, Books and Household Effects. Also:

FARM IMPLEMENTS

including a Ferguson Tractor and attachments, a Massey-Harris Binder, Grinding Mill, Manure Distributor, Combine Drill, Sectional Poultry House, Saw Bench, Hand Tools, etc.

WHICH WILL BE SOLD BY PUBLIC AUCTION ON THE PREMISES ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1955, COMMENCING AT 11 a.m.

View Day: Wednesday, December 14 from 10 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Catalogues, price 3d., obtainable from the Auctioneers, Head Office, as above, or Cival Hall, Chelmsford (Tel. 4661).

MAPLE & CO.

ESTATE OFFICES

5, GRAFTON STREET, OLD BOND STREET, LONDON, W.1
And at Tottenham Court Road, W.1

Tel. HYDE PARK 4685

COOMBE LEA, GRAND AVENUE, HOVE, SUSSEX

UNDOUBTEDLY ONE OF THE FINEST RESIDENCES ON THE SOUTH COAST

Ideal for entertaining and of interest to the investor.

Handsome panelled lounge hall (as illustrated), drawing room, dining room, study, billiards room, sun lounge, excellent domestic offices with housekeeper's sitting room, 4 principal bedrooms arranged in 3 suites with boudoir, dressing room and 3 bathrooms.

4 staff bedrooms and bathroom.

Double garage with chauffeur's flat above.

All main services.
Complete central heating.
House telephone.

3/4 acres matured gardens with greenhouses.



Offers to purchase the Freehold by Private Treaty now are invited, otherwise the Property will be offered for Sale by Auction next Spring
Illustrated brochures with floor plans from MAPLE & Co., LTD., Hyde Park 4685.

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FARNHAM COMMON

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BEACONSFIELD
GERRARDS CROSS

DENHAM, BUCKS

Shops, station and golf course, all within 10 mins. walk.

MODERN (1936) ARCHITECT DESIGNED COTTAGE STYLE HOME



3-4 BEDROOMS,
TILED BATHROOM,

2 RECEPTION

STUDY

(or 4th Bedroom).

KITCHEN

Main Services.

BRICK-BUILT
GARAGE

Completely screened
garden of
1/2 ACRE

VERY REASONABLE PRICE OF £4,000 FREEHOLD

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BEACONSFIELD

Only a short distance from main line station (Marylebone 40 minutes) and the main shopping centre.

A DELIGHTFUL MODERN FAMILY HOUSE IN THE GEORGIAN STYLE

In one of the best
residential parts of Bea-
consfield and containing
6 bedrooms, bathroom,
3 reception rooms (one
27 ft. 9 in. by 14 ft.),
downstairs cloakroom.
Easily worked kitchen
quarters.

All main services and
part central heating.

Integral garage and work-
shop. Pretty and pro-
ductive garden about

1 ACRE
with tennis lawn, fruit
trees and soft fruit.



FREEHOLD FOR SALE WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Apply: Beaconsfield Office (Tel. 600-1-2).

MEADWAY, ESHER, SURREY

Adjacent to ESHER COMMON, CLAREMONT ESTATE AND THE LEATHERHEAD ROAD
NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Several detached RESIDENCES to individual architect's designs in the most attractive surroundings of the Green Belt.

ACCOMMODATION: Entrance hall, cloakroom, lounge, dining room, well fitted kitchen, 4 bedrooms, bathroom and w.c. Built-in garage and fuel stores. Large garden plots.

SPECIAL FEATURES include central heating and hot water from the thermostatically controlled boiler, hard wood block floors, stainless steel sink unit with double drains and disappearing roof ladder.

PRICE £6,100 FREEHOLD (As Illustrated)

N.B.—Choice of above or two others at £5,850 and £5,900 at present available, but early inspection advised in order to secure.

SHOW HOUSE on view, including week-ends, or for further particulars, apply to:

THE ESTATES MANAGER, BARNARD INVESTMENT COMPANY, LTD., 73, ACRE LANE, Brixton, S.W.2 (Tel.: Brixton 8232).

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TILLEY & CULVERWELL

(BATH)

NEW BOND STREET CHAMBERS,
14, NEW BOND STREET, BATH
(Tels. 3150, 3584, 428 and 61360,
4 lines).

AN ENCHANTING COTTAGE-STYLE RESIDENCE ON THE COTSWOLD HILLS

In the heart of a village on the Bristol-London road (8 miles
Bath, 12 miles Bristol).



(A CORNER OF THE LOUNGE)

COMPLETELY REDECORATED AND MOD-
ERNISED TO PROVIDE A LUXURY HOME
This old-world property, forming part of terrace, affords
the following completely labour-saving accommodation:
Attractive ENTRANCE HALL with glazed doors, com-
municating to LOUNGE and DINING ROOM (all with
Macori block wood flooring), BREAKFAST ROOM,
KITCHEN, CLOAKROOM, 3 BEDROOMS, well-
appointed BATHROOM. Many attractive and unusual
features. Central heating. Simply maintained GAR-
DENS with crazy paved SUN TERRACE. 2 GARAGES.
AN EXCEPTIONAL PROPERTY WHICH MUST
BE SEEN TO BE APPRECIATED 183C.

BUNGALOWS

IN THE COUNTRYSIDE NEAR BATH

LOVELY SPACIOUS BUNGALOW RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER

Unique in design. LOUNGE, DINING ROOM, BIL-
LIARD ROOM, convenient domestic offices, 5 BED-
ROOMS and DRESSING ROOM, part-tiled BATH-
ROOM. Natural gardens, tennis court, 2 garages.
HIGHLY RECOMMENDED P.F. 29. J.

NEAR SOMERSET VILLAGE

Only just modernised and re-decorated throughout.

PRETTY DETACHED BUNGALOW with grand
views. LOUNGE, DINING ROOM, 3 BEDROOMS,
BATHROOM, spacious modern KITCHEN with Aga
cooker. Easily-kept gardens. Garage with covered
approach.

PRICE £3,950 P.F. 39. L.

DETACHED LUXURY BUNGALOW

Built only a year ago, pleasantly situated on southern
city outskirts.

Completely labour-saving architect-designed accom-
modation: LOUNGE, DINING ROOM, KITCHEN with
latest fittings, 4 BEDROOMS and BOX ROOM, beau-
tifully appointed BATHROOM. Many attractive features.
Well laid-out gardens. Detached garage. Immediate
inspection advised.

PRICE £4,500 P.F. 2 C.

A LOVELY

PERIOD HOUSE IN SOMERSET

Bath, Warminster and Frome easily accessible.



THE RESIDENCE WITH DRIVE APPROACH

Beautifully modernised throughout, ensuring the maxi-
mum of comfort, and equipped with labour-saving
devices, but still retaining the charm and character of
earlier centuries.

Accommodation (with a multitude of attractive features):
3 delightful reception rooms, 4-6 bedrooms, games room,
2 bathrooms, modern kitchen and offices.

All main services.

Double garage. Greenhouse and other outbuildings.
Superior cottage residence (service tenancy).

Attractive gardens, grounds and paddock.

IN ALL 3 ACRES

Altogether an exceptional property privately in the
market. P.F. 134J.



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YORK

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE

EDINBURGH

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UNIQUE STONE-BUILT MANOR HOUSE

Dating from 14th- and 15th-centuries, with a history going back to the 11th century.

MAGNIFICENT GREAT HALL WITH GALLERY AND PRICELESS LINENFOLD PANELLING

DINING ROOM, LOUNGES, COCKTAIL BAR, etc., 20 LETTING BEDROOMS, MANY WITH PRIVATE BATHS.

CONVERTED TITHE BARN PROVIDING 4 ADDITIONAL ROOMS.

15 ACRES OF FINELY TIMBERED GROUNDS PARTLY MOATED

including

SWIMMING POOL, SQUASH COURT, 2 HARD TENNIS COURTS, PUTTING COURSE AND CROQUET GROUND.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD IN PERFECT PRESERVATION

Suitable for Private occupation or other purposes.

The PROPERTY is at present running as a licensed hotel and could be taken over as a going concern.

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A SMALL PERIOD HOUSE

In rural Essex, 4 miles main line station, London 50 minutes.

MODERNISED RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER



5 BEDROOMS
(2 h. and c.)
BATHROOM

2-3 RECEPTION
ROOMS,
CLOAKROOM,
KITCHEN.

*Central heating.
Main services.*

Attractive cottage garden
ABOUT 1½ ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Details from West End Office. GROsvenor 2501.

By direction of the Rt. Hon. Lord Deramore.

HESLINGTON, NEAR YORK

AN ATTRACTIVE SMALL REGENCY-STYLE RESIDENCE KNOWN AS

THE LODGE

Entrance hall, dining room, ante-room, large through lounge, breakfast room, cloakroom and good domestic offices, 4 double bedrooms, 2 boxrooms.

BATHROOM AND SEPARATE W.C.

GARAGE, 2-STALL STABLE, STORE ROOMS, PIGSTY and GREENHOUSE
Excellent grounds with fine ornamental trees, lawns, flower beds, good kitchen garden and tennis lawn. There is also a GRASS Paddock to the rear of the garden

extending in all to approximately

2½ ACRES

FOR SALE BY AUCTION (unless sold previously by private treaty) on
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1955, at 2.30 p.m., at the ROYAL STATION
HOTEL, YORK

Land Agent: M. LAWSON-SMITH, Esq., F.R.A.S., 38a, Coney Street, York. Tel. 53310.
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For private occupation or conversion.

LIMPSFIELD, SURREY

On the fringe of the Common, with lovely far-reaching southerly views.

TUDOR REPRODUCTION

with 7 principal bedrooms,
4 bathrooms, 3-4 reception
rooms, domestic offices.

EXCELLENT
OUTBUILDINGS
including lodge.

GARAGE
STABLING AND
COTTAGE

Attractive grounds of
18 ACRES

including swimming pool.

All main services.



FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Details from Oxted Office (Tel. 975 and 1010).

ENCHANTING LAKELAND RESIDENCE

Overlooking beautiful Derwent Water.

BRACKENBURN, MANESTY, NEAR KESWICK

Formerly the home of Sir Hugh Walpole, the novelist.

Contains 4 BEDROOMS, DRESSINGROOM, 2 BATHROOMS, 2 RECEPTION

ROOMS. KITCHEN WITH AGA. CENTRAL HEATING.

DOUBLE GARAGE WITH FLAT OVER (formerly Sir Hugh's library and study).

SMALL TIMBER-BUILT BUNGALOW

Mature well laid out gardens.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

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Within 3 minutes' walk of station and shops.

ATTRACTIVE

MODERN HOUSE OF CHARACTER

2 RECEPTION ROOMS, SUN ROOM, CLOAKS,
KITCHEN, 4 BEDROOMS, DRESSING ROOM,
BATHROOM.

All main services.

GARAGE. SMALL GARDEN.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

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MODERNISED PERIOD COTTAGE

In favourite West Sussex area near Midhurst.

PLANNED MAINLY ON ONE FLOOR



1-2 reception rooms, 3-4 bedrooms, cloakroom, well-fitted kitchen, bathroom, Garage. Main services. Small garden, extra land available.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Details from West End Office.

HARTFIELD, SUSSEX

Magnificent views over Ashdown Forest.

A MODERN COUNTRY HOUSE

2 FINE INTER COMMUNICATING RECEPTION
ROOMS,

KITCHEN AND CLOAKROOM,

5 BEDROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS.

Central heating.

Main services.

INTEGRAL GARAGE AND SMALL GARDEN

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

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OXSHOTT, SURREY

One of the few freehold properties in the district.

WELL FITTED DETACHED HOUSE IN OWN GARDENS OF 1½ ACRES.



Secluded and enjoying pleasant views, yet only 5 minutes Oxshott Station (Waterloo 30 minutes).

4 principal and 2 secondary bedrooms, bathroom, box-room, 3 reception, cloak-room. Good domestic offices. Fuel stores.

GARAGE FOR 2 CARS.

GREENHOUSE.

Useful outbuildings.

Well-kept pretty garden with tennis court. Usual services.

PRICE £7,950 FREEHOLD

CUBITT & WEST, Bookham Office.

(BX.111)

LONDON under 1 hour.

FARNHAM Station 4 miles.

Adjoining 18-hole golf course. Sailing and fishing.

AN EXCEEDINGLY DELIGHTFUL COUNTRY RESIDENCE. GEORGIAN CHARACTERISTICS

2 Floors Only. Central heating.

5 principal bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom (all h. and c.), and w.c. Staff suite, 3 bedrooms, bathroom (all h. and c.), and w.c. 3 fine reception (31 ft. by 20 ft., 18 ft. by 12 ft., 22 ft. by 17 ft. 8 in.). Labour-saving offices with staff sitting room.

Constant hot water.

GARAGE

(22 ft. 6 in. by 19 ft. 9 in. with clock tower, stable, heated greenhouse.



14 ACRES creating beautiful setting.

MAIN ELECTRICITY, GAS AND WATER. MODERN DRAINAGE.

MUST BE SOLD. OFFERS INVITED.

CUBITT & WEST, Farnham Office.

(OX.2937)

FIRST TIME IN MARKET

ATTRACTIVE ARCHITECT-BUILT MODERN RESIDENCE



HASLEMERE, situated in favourite residential district, south and west aspect, well fitted throughout. 2 reception, cloakroom, 4 bedrooms (with basins). Part central heating. Double garage. Garden.

½ ACRE. PRICE £4,000

CUBITT & WEST, Haslemere Office. (HX.537)

OVERLOOKING NATIONAL TRUST COMMON

NEAR DORKING

ATTRACTIVE DETACHED RESIDENCE

Well fitted and decorated

Most pleasant and spacious accommodation.

ENTRANCE HALL AND CLOAKROOM, LOUNGE, DINING ROOM, STUDY, LARGE BRIGHT KITCHEN, 4 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM, SEPARATE W.C.

GOOD OUTHOUSE. GARAGE

VERY PLEASANT GARDEN

All main services.

PRICE £4,800 FREEHOLD

Details: Dorking Office.

(D.561)

AN EXCELLENT SMALLHOLDING

Situated in beautiful WEST SUSSEX.



Between Liphook, Midhurst and Haslemere. Polo at Midhurst, golf at Liphook. Hunting. 17th-century Farmhouse with oak beams. 2 reception, kitchen, 3-5 bedrooms, bathroom. EXCELLENT BUILDINGS

11¼ ACRES

STRONGLY RECOMMENDED. PRICE £4,000

CUBITT & WEST, Haslemere Office. (HX.538)

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RESIDENTIAL DEPARTMENT

HAVE AVAILABLE

SMALL AND LARGE HOUSES IN TOWN AND COUNTRY

ALSO LICENSED AND UNLICENSED PROPERTIES

SUITABLE FOR INSTITUTIONS

REQUIRED FOR CLIENTS

QUEEN ANNE OR GEORGIAN HOUSE

WITH RIVER OR LAKE ADJOINING

COTTAGES, ETC., WITH SOME 20-30 ACRES

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KENSINGTON OR KNIGHTSBRIDGE AREA

LARGE TOWN RESIDENCE

WITH APPROX. 7 BEDS., 3-4 BATHS., 2-3 RECEPTION ROOMS

PRICE SAY £15,000

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WEST SURREY

CORHAM
GUILDFORD
WOKING
WEST BYFLEET

COBHAM

Outskirts pretty village, near shops, buses, station (Waterloo 32 mins.).
DETACHED COTTAGE RESIDENCE



First time in market for 30 years.

3 bedrooms, modern bathroom, separate w.c., entrance hall, lounge, dining room, study, kitchen.

SUN LOGGIA

BRICK GARAGE

Outbuildings, greenhouse.

APPROX. 1 ACRE

walled garden.

£5,600 FREEHOLD

(Cobham Office: EWBANK & Co., 19, High Street. Tel. 47).

WENTWORTH

Favourite residential area, convenient London, near golf courses.
DELIGHTFUL MODERN DETACHED HOUSE



Excellent decorative order throughout.

5 BEDROOMS, 2 NURSERIES, 3 BATHROOMS, HALL, CLOAKROOM, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS, MODEL KITCHEN.

3 GARAGES

OUTBUILDINGS.

Main services. Central heating.

ABOUT 2 ACRES

£12,500 FREEHOLD

(Chobham Office: High Street. Tel. 38).

WATERLOO 36 MINUTES

On high ground within 12 mins. walk station.
WEST BYFLEET



SECLUDED 1/2 ACRE GARDEN.

3 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM, 2 RECEPTION ROOMS, KITCHEN, CLOAKROOM, GARAGE.

£3,600 FREEHOLD

(New Haw Office: 315, Woodham Lane. Tel. Byfleet 2884).

PYRFORD

EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE AND IMPOSING HOUSE
In popular residential area.



8 bedrooms, dressing room, 3 bathrooms, lounge hall, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms.

SELF-CONTAINED COTTAGE

GARAGE FOR 3

Central heating. All main services.

2 ACRES PERFECTLY MAINTAINED GARDEN

£10,000 FREEHOLD

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BY ORDER OF EXECUTORS

ST. GEORGE'S HILL, WEYBRIDGE

Near shops, station, full south aspect, semi-rural surroundings.



5 BEDROOMS (3 h. and c.), 2 BATHROOMS, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS, MAID'S ROOM, LARGE KITCHEN, CLOAKROOM.

GARAGE

with workshop.

SECLUDED GARDEN partly wooded, about 1 1/4 ACRES

£7,250 FREEHOLD

(Weybridge Office: EWBANK & Co., 7, Baker Street. Tel. 61-2). Sole Agents.

ESHER

JUST IN MARKET

Easy walking distance station.



Large garden, 3 good bedrooms, excellent bathroom, separate tiled w.c., through 21 ft. lounge with door to conservatory, dining room 13 ft. by 13 ft., breakfast room with casement door to garden, tiled fitted kitchen, cloakroom.

All services.

Polished oak strip flooring ground floor, 2 radiators.

AMPLE GARAGE SPACE

£4,850 FREEHOLD

(Esher Office: EWBANK & Co., 70, High Street. Tel. 3537-8).

GUILDFORD

OVERLOOKING PARK ON LEVEL GROUND

Few mins. walk station, High Street.



4 double bedrooms (3 h. and c.), 2 tiled bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, staff room, kitchen, cloakroom, playroom.

2 GARAGES

HARD TENNIS COURT.

Gas fired central heating.

1 1/2 ACRES.

All main services.

£7,000 FREEHOLD

(Guildford Office: 22, Epsom Road. Tel. 62911-2).

CHARACTER RESIDENCE

TUDOR STYLE



4 BEDROOMS, DRESSING ROOM (4 h. and c.), BOX ROOM, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS, HALL, CLOAKROOM (h. and c.), MODERN KITCHEN, etc.

1/2 ACRE secluded garden.

USEFUL GARDEN PLAYROOM

£6,950 FREEHOLD

(Walton Office: 38, High Street. Tel. 2331-2).

WEYBRIDGE

High ground adjoining golf course.
PICTURESQUE MODERN RESIDENCE



with Norfolk Reed roof.

5 mins. from homes.

Central heating throughout 6 BED AND DRESSING ROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS, CLOAKROOM.

2 GARAGES

1 ACRE garden.

All main services.

FREEHOLD

(Weybridge Office: EWBANK & Co., 7, Baker Street. Tel. 61-2).

DELIGHTFUL MODERN GEORGIAN STYLE HOUSE

EXCELLENT ORDER

About 4 miles Woking town, station, overlooking farmland.



6 BEDROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS, HALL WITH CLOAKROOM, BREAKFAST ROOM, KITCHEN.

GARAGE FOR 2

Main services, modern drainage, central heating.

ABOUT 2 1/2 ACRES

WITH TENNIS LAWN.

£6,750 FREEHOLD

(Woking Office: 3, High Street. Tel. 3800-3).



HAMPTON & SONS

6, ARLINGTON STREET, ST. JAMES'S, S.W.1

HYDe Park 8222 (20 lines)

Telegrams: "Belanlet, Piccy, London"



A SHOWPLACE 16 MILES WEST OF TOWN

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

LOVELY RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER IN FINE SITUATION

Beautifully appointed

All modern comforts.

CENTRAL HEATING

Company's services.

Drive approach. Hall, cloakroom, 4 reception rooms, 6 main bedrooms (fitted h. and c.), 3 bathrooms, 3 staff bedrooms and bathroom and excellent offices.

Oak beams, floors and joinery.



GARAGE FOR 4 CARS.

Useful buildings.

CHARMING GROUNDS

with excellent swimming pool, hard tennis court, productive kitchen garden, grass and woodland,

in all about

10 ACRES

FREEHOLD FOR SALE. HIGHLY RECOMMENDED BY

HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (B.49750)

PROPERTIES URGENTLY REQUIRED

WITHIN 50 MILES SOUTH OR WEST OF LONDON

Agricultural Estate, 400-1,000 ACRES, preferably with fishing. Main residence not necessary. Would suit Owner-occupier wishing to remain in possession. Details to "Keen Investor," HAMPTON & SONS.

HORSHAM AREA PREFERRED

Good Modern House with 3 reception, 6-7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Staff quarters. Cottage. Central heating. Main services. **Few acres, up to £10,000. Early possession.** Details to "G.A.," HAMPTON & SONS (Usual commission required).

SURREY, Kingswood, Reigate, Walton Heath Area

Family Residence, 6-7 bedrooms, etc. 2 ACRES of grounds. **Price in region of £8,000.** Particulars to Mrs. W. B., c/o HAMPTON & SONS. (Usual commission required.)

HAMPSHIRE OR BORDERS

Small Mixed Farm 50-100 ACRES. Good house with 5 bed., etc. Cottage an advantage. Range of buildings of Attested standard. Details to "Client," HAMPTON & SONS.

10 miles radius of **HAYWARDS HEATH** or **EAST GRINSTEAD.** Character Residence or Modern House of period style. 3 reception, 6-8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Cottage. Main services. **2 to 10 ACRES. A figure of up to £12,000** will be paid for suitable house. Replies to Mr. H. P., c/o HAMPTON & SONS.

WEST SURREY, HANTS

In country 5 miles from a town. For Scottish applicant. A modern style house with 3 reception, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Garage with flat or small cottage. Main electric light and water essential. **2-5 ACRES. £8,000** will be paid for likely property. Particulars to Mrs. C., c/o HAMPTON & SONS.

Within 10-15 miles of Exeter-Moniton, Woodbury-Crediton side preferred.

A good country property with minimum 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms. Main services. Self-contained staff flat or cottage. Up to **10 ACRES** or so. Details to "G." c/o HAMPTON & SONS. (Usual commission required.)

ESHER, OXSHOTT, COBHAM AREA

Luxuriously fitted Modern House with 4-5 bedrooms, 2-3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms. Central heating. Easily kept garden of about **1 ACRE. Up to £10,000.**

Mrs. P., c/o HAMPTON & SONS.

WEST SUSSEX

Preferably Pulborough to Bosham. **A Compact House of Character.** 4 bedrooms, 3 reception. Cottage or staff accommodation. Garage. **10 to 50 ACRES. GOOD PRICE PAID.** "J.B.," HAMPTON & SONS. (Usual commission required.)

BRANCH OFFICES: WIMBLEDON COMMON AND STATION; BOURNEMOUTH, HANTS; AND BISHOP'S STORTFORD, HERTS.

SUNNINGDALE
Tel.: Ascot 63 and 64

CHANCELLORS & CO.

And at Ascot
Tel. 1 and 2

BEECH GROVE, SUNNINGHILL

Outskirts of village, 1 mile from Ascot.

Suitable Private, Scholastic or Institutional purpose or conversion to flats.



FREEHOLD SMALL RESIDENTIAL ESTATE.

Mansion (part dating from 1635), 17 bed., 4 baths., 5 rec. Central heating. Main services. 3 garages, stabling, cottage. **ABOUT 17½ ACRES.** For sale at low price (privately or Auction later).

Sole Agents: CHANCELLORS & Co., as above.

SUNNINGDALE AREA

In a lovely sylvan setting, 2 miles from station. Close to golf course and buses.

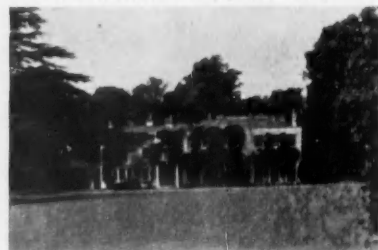


An artistically-designed and well-appointed small MODERN HOUSE. 5 bed. and dressing rooms, 2 baths., 3 rec., large playroom (or additional bedroom). Central heating. Oak floors, etc. 2 garages. **Remarkably attractive and well-kept grounds about 1 ACRE FOR SALE FREEHOLD**

Very highly recommended by the Agents: CHANCELLORS AND Co., as above.

CLOSE TO SUNNINGDALE

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FIRST-CLASS UNFURNISHED FLATS IN THIS LOVELY GEORGIAN MANSION with finely proportioned rooms. 2/4 bed., 1/2 bath., 1/2 rec. All main services.

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With chapel and 6½ ACRES gardens and orchards, fish ponds. Modern cottage (which could be disposed of separately).

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Traditional English gardens. Good services. Central heating.

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A DELIGHTFUL AND EASILY
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At the foot of the Bicknell Valley.

With LOUNGE HALL, 2 RECEPTION and 4 BED-ROOMS.

All main services.

GARAGE

Small pleasure garden.

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225 ACRES In Fertile Valley Complete Equipment

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Magnificent scenery.

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Ideal climate.

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COMPLETE SHOPPING CENTRE



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A LOVELY TUDOR FARMHOUSE



7 bedrooms and 2 attic rooms, 4 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, modern domestic offices and maid's sitting room. Main services. Central heating. COTTAGE. Double garage.

4½ ACRES. FREEHOLD £29,000
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On high ground with view to the Hogs Back.

A TUDOR-STYLE HOUSE recently completely modernised and redecorated



5-6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms and lounge hall, labour-saving domestic offices. Main services. Garage incorporated in house. 1 ACRE, mostly woodland and lawns.

FREEHOLD. A REAL BARGAIN AT £5,500

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Within walking distance of station. On high ground, 20 miles from London.

AN ATTRACTIVE MODERN HOUSE in superlative order.



5 bed and a dressing room, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, well planned and fitted domestic offices. Central heating throughout (newly installed). Main services. 2 garages. ¾ ACRE of garden requiring the minimum of upkeep.

FREEHOLD

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On main omnibus route to London.

THE MAIN WING OF A BEAUTIFUL GEORGIAN-STYLE COUNTRY HOUSE

5 bedrooms (2 with b. and c. basins), 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms (drawing room 33 ft. by 23 ft.), kitchen, breakfast room and kitchen. Main services. Garage. Store. 1 ACRE including tennis court.

FREEHOLD ONLY £4,950

This is highly recommended at the recently greatly reduced price.

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Close to station and shops.

A WELL-BUILT FAMILY GUEST HOUSE

showing net profit of £10 weekly

6 bedrooms, 2 modern bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, breakfast room and kitchen. Main services. Small garden.

FREEHOLD PRICE £3,950, to include furniture etc., as a going concern. Owner would sell without furniture.

ASCOT, BERKSHIRE
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Conveniently situated between Guildford and Bagshot, adjoining the golf course.

A WELL-PLANNED MODERN HOUSE



7 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, good domestic offices and sitting room. Central heating. Main services. Garage for 4 cars. Useful out-buildings. 7 ACRES including orchard and paddock. Apply Sole Agents: MRS. N. C. TUFNELL, as above, or Messrs. EGGAR & Co., 74, Castle Street, Farnham, Surrey. Tel.: Farnham 6221.

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A COTTAGE-STYLE HOME in charming grounds



6 bed and a dressing room, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, usual offices. Central heating. Main services. Small COTTAGE. 2 garages. 2 ACRES IN ALL

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Close to Hankley Common Golf Course.

AN ATTRACTIVE
DETACHED COTTAGE RESIDENCE

In secluded rural setting.

HALL, LOUNGE, DINING ROOM, KITCHEN,
3 BEDROOMS, DRESSING ROOM, BATHROOM.

GARAGE

Main water, electricity and gas. Modern drainage.

Easily maintained garden, including woodland, in all
4½ ACRES

FREEHOLD WITH POSSESSION

FARNHAM, SURREY

Station 2½ miles. Waterloo 1 hour.

A UNIQUE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

On the outskirts of the town, excellently modernised
with fine and spacious principal rooms.

LOUNGE HALL, CLOAKROOM AND W.C., 2 RECEPTION ROOMS, GOOD OFFICES, STAFF ROOM, LOGGIA, 6-7 BEDROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS.

GARAGES. SERVICES

Lovely terraced garden, woodland and extra land, in all
ABOUT 12½ ACRES

VACANT POSSESSION

PRICE £7,500

WEST SURREY

Between Farnham and Frensham.

MODERN DETACHED RESIDENCE

In semi-rural setting.

HALL, CLOAKROOM WITH W.C., 2 GOOD RECEPTION ROOMS, 2 DOUBLE AND 2 SINGLE BEDROOMS, BATHROOM, W.C., ETC.

GARAGE

Outbuildings including loose box.

Main water, gas and electricity. Modern drainage.
Central heating.

Pleasant secluded garden with spacious lawns and
protective woodland, in all 1½ ACRES

PRICE £5,350 WITH POSSESSION

RACKHAM & SMITH

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Entirely rural; good views to the Downs. Between Horsham and the coast.

MOST ATTRACTIVE LATE GEORGIAN COUNTRY HOUSE



3 good reception, hall and cloaks, 4-5 beds, new bathroom, kitchen.

GARAGE

Main electricity and water.

Pleasant garden.

Paddocks available.

£5,500

Present owner travels daily from Haywards Heath reaching the City in 1½ hours.

THIS HOUSE WILL APPEAL TO THOSE WANTING ABSOLUTE
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Southern aspect, facing sea.

NEWLY ERECTED GEORGIAN-STYLE RESIDENCE

2 RECEPTION ROOMS.
(Lounge 21 ft. by 13 ft.)
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basins),

BATHROOM AND
KITCHEN.

Central heating

GARAGE

All principal rooms face
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Front elevation.

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FOR SALE FREEHOLD

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London 18 miles.

A DELIGHTFUL TUDOR STYLE PROPERTY

adjacent to the Common and Woodlands.



LOUNGE HALL.
3 RECEPTION ROOMS.
4 PRINCIPAL BED-
ROOMS, 2 SECONDARY
BEDROOMS, 2 BATH-
ROOMS.

All main services.

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Well situated near centre of market town in RESIDENTIAL and SPORTING DISTRICT

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SHOWROOMS, 6 BEDROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS, COMPACT OFFICES
MAIN SERVICES

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

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CHELTENHAM—on a private residential estate.

High ground commanding glorious views.

IDEAL HOME FOR A FAMILY

DISTINCTIVE RESIDENCE with South aspect.

Lounge hall, 2 reception
rooms, 5 bedrooms, bath-
room. Compact domestic
Offices.

All main services.

Gas fired central heating
throughout.

Garage, greenhouse, etc.

Charming and easily
maintained garden. Small
orchard.

First Class Hard Tennis
Court and small
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2-ACRE Paddock. TOTAL AREA ABOUT 3 ACRES.
FREEHOLD. FOR SALE PRIVATELY NOW OR BY AUCTION LATER.

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SIX MILES FROM THE CITY OF YORK

IN A SEMI-RURAL RESIDENTIAL AREA MODERN DETACHED HOUSE

Brick and part rough cast. South aspect.

ENTRANCE HALL, 2 RECEPTION ROOMS, GOOD-SIZED KITCHEN,
INSIDE COALHOUSE, 4 BEDROOMS, 4-TILED BATHROOM, SEPARATE
W.C.

Single garage.

OUTSIDE W.C. AND WORKSHOP.

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1/4 ACRE

ONLY £3,250 FREEHOLD

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WITHIN THE CATHEDRAL PRECINCTS.
TO BE LEASED UNFURNISHED



A Charming Old Period Resi-
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Alternatively, plans have been
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2 separate smaller residences.
The accommodation includes a
number of excellent principal
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ALL MAIN SERVICES. SECLUDED GARDEN.
LARGE GARAGE.

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COMMODOUS RESIDENCE

in good order, suitable for
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3 reception rooms, cloakroom,
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FLAT of 3 rooms, bathroom and
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ANNEXE of 6 rooms, bathroom
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GROUPS of about 2 1/2 ACRES

GARAGE for 4.

Main electricity, gas and water.



VACANT POSSESSION. PRICE £5,500

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OFFER A WIDE SELECTION OF SPACIOUS HIGH QUALITY ARCHITECT-DESIGNED VILLAS BUILT TO CLIENTS' REQUIREMENTS ON CHOICE
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FEATURES

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Fully fitted and equipped kitchen.

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CONSTRUCTION—conforming to the soundest
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11 in. cavity construction with selected external facing
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having great individuality. 4 bedrooms (basins), 3 reception rooms, well-fitted kitchen, 2 bathrooms. Double garage. Terraced gardens, woodland, etc.,
3 ACRES. Central heating.
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MODERN RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER IN IMMACULATE ORDER
5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, kitchen. Staff accommodation separate. GARAGE (4 cars).
8 ACRES. Really beautiful gardens with lake, streams and woodlands, etc.
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ELIZABETHAN MANOR HOUSE

STONE-BUILT ON OXFORD-NORTHANTS BORDER
A LOVELY EXAMPLE OF AN ENGLISH MANOR HOUSE.
6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, spacious lounge, dining room, study, library, modern kitchen. Complete central heating. **2½ ACRES** beautiful gardens, paddock, garages, stabling, etc. 2 cottages.
EASY ACCESS LONDON AND BIRMINGHAM
A PROPERTY OF GREAT CHARACTER IN FIRST-CLASS ORDER

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LODGE IN VERY SECLUDED RURAL POSITION
2 reception rooms, 2 bedrooms, bathroom. Garage. **½-ACRE** of gardens. Main water and electricity. Convenient for golf courses and travel.
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IN MOUNT'S BAY
MOUSEHOLE, NEAR NEWLYN
(Artists' locale)

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INTERESTING AND WARM POSITION
IMMEDIATE POSSESSION

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GEORGIAN MANOR HOUSE IN EXCELLENT ORDER.
5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms (in suites), 4 reception rooms, modern kitchen. Separate domestic accommodation.
GARAGES. STABLING. 2 modernised cottages.
30 ACRES IN ALL

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Witney 5 miles, Oxford 18 miles. Occupying a peaceful and secluded position, facing south, in a quaint little Cotswold township, within a few minutes' walk only of good general provision shops and bus services.

A COTSWOLD GEORGIAN HOUSE

AFFORDING A VERY PLEASANT FAMILY HOME

2 period sitting rooms, kitchen-breakfast room, study (or double bedroom), 2 (or 3) principal double bedrooms, single bedroom (or dressing room), bathroom and 3 secondary bedrooms.

Note.—There are a number of built-in cupboards throughout the house, including some attractive original powder closets.



Main electric light. Main water supply. Central heating radiators fitted throughout.

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Front and rear gardens entirely enclosed by stone walls, in all about **¾ ACRE**

Vacant Possession

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And at
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KENT—2 MILES MAIN LINE STATION**CHARMING PERIOD RESIDENCE**

in attractive garden setting



Entrance hall, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, kitchen with Aga, 5 bedrooms, bathroom.

Central heating.
Main services.

GARAGE.

Attractive well laid out garden and grounds of about **¾ ACRE**
PRICE £5,250 FREEHOLD

Please apply Ashford Office.

NEAR MAIDSTONE**IMPOSING GEORGIAN RESIDENCE**

3 rec., 7-11 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, etc.

Central heating.

Outbuildings and grounds of **2½ ACRES**

(An adjoining farm of 136 acres is available)

ABOUT 5 MILES FROM RYE**A VERY CHARMING PERIOD HOUSE**

Fully modernised and with every convenience.

4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, hall and cloakroom, modern kitchen.

Garage. Beautiful gardens and complete seclusion.

FOR SALE WITH POSSESSION

NEAR ASHFORD**ATTRACTIVE COUNTRY COTTAGE DATED 1647**

Well modernised and in excellent order.

Lounge-dining room (27 ft. by 14 ft.), 2-3 bedrooms, etc. Main services.

Secluded garden.

WELLESLEY-SMITH & CO.

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JUST IN THE MARKET OWING TO BEREAVEMENT
AN EXQUISITELY APPOINTED HOUSE

35 MILES OF LONDON IN A REALLY SUPERB POSITION

in South Berks, on an eminence, adjacent to National Trust Lands, 4 miles from electrified service to Waterloo.

THE FASCINATING LONG LOW HOUSE IS ON 2 FLOORS ONLY and enjoys complete and preserved seclusion without isolation. Vestibule and cloakrooms. A beautiful reception hall, spacious drawing room, dining room and study (the décor in Georgian taste), offices on model lines, 6-7 bedrooms in suites with 4 bathrooms.

Valuable Period Mantelpieces. Central heating throughout. Main electricity and water. Aga cooker. Excellent cottage. Heated garage for 3-4 cars.

A LOVELY GARDEN with a rare collection of flowering shrubs and evergreen trees in full maturity, woodlands, etc.

6½ ACRES FREEHOLD

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£2,500 TUNBRIDGE WELLS. Situated in a pleasant position in a private park. A FREEHOLD PROPERTY very suitable for modernising and converting into a delightful little house. 2 sitting rooms, 3 bedrooms, kitchen and bathroom. Useful outbuildings. Garden, about **¾ ACRE.**

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£3,500 OCCUPYING A MAGNIFICENT POSITION IN WADHURST, whence London is reached in just over the hour. Lounge, 2 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, bathroom and domestic offices. Garage. Garden of **½ ACRE.**

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£4,000 AN ATTRACTIVE DETACHED GEORGIAN RESIDENCE situated on high ground in Tunbridge Wells. Easily accessible to the shops and station. 3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, etc. Small garden.

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£5,000 AN UNUSUALLY ATTRACTIVE, WELL-BUILT RESIDENCE situated well back and absolutely screened from the road; approached through a really delightful garden by a long drive. The property is situated in Tunbridge Wells on high ground and just over a mile from the Central Station. Lounge, dining room, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Liberally fitted with electric power and light points. Excellent double garage.

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SALISBURY, LONDON, SHERBORNE, SOUTHAMPTON, TAUNTON

HAZELBURY MANOR ESTATE, WILTSHIRE

BETWEEN BATH AND CHIPPENHAM

A FIRST-CLASS AGRICULTURAL ESTATE OF 510 ACRES



INCLUDING MANOR HOUSE

WITH 5 RECEPTION ROOMS, 13 PRINCIPAL
BEDROOMS, 6 BATHROOMS
ALSO DOWER HOUSE

(Subject of an illustrated article in Country Life—
Completely restored in early 1920s)

together with

AN ATTESTED DAIRY FARM

WITH FARMHOUSE AND SIX COTTAGES

and

80 ACRES OF WOODLANDS



WITH VACANT POSSESSION (WITH THE EXCEPTION OF A FEW ACRES)

ALTERNATIVE SELLING PROPOSALS:

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FOR WEST AND
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A CHARMING COTSWOLD COTTAGE IN A PRETTY VILLAGE NEAR STOW-ON-THE-WOLD



Fully modernised and of typical Cotswold character.

Delightful lounge (17 ft. by 14 ft.), another sitting room, compact kitchen, 3 bed. (2 h. and c.), bath., etc. Main services. Good double garage. Small garden.

PHOTOS AVAILABLE. £3,500

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SOMERSET. Quiet unspoiled village between Sherborne and Taunton. Dignified Georgian Residence of much character in secluded walled gardens about 1 ACRE. Hall, cloak, 2 rec., morning, domestic offices with Aga, etc., 4 bed., 2 baths., staff room. Mains. Apply: Shepton Mallet (as above).

SOMT. WILTS BORDERS. NR. BATH. Delightful Cotswold Farmhouse Residence, carefully modernised and in superb order. Hall, spacious lounge, dining, study, modern offices, 4 bed., bath, etc. Mains. Pretty garden with stream. About 1/2 ACRE. £3,950 Apply: Shepton Mallet (as above).

A PRODUCTIVE LITTLE PROPERTY OF 3 1/2 ACRES in lovely country. GLOS. HERE-FORD BORDER. Secluded, fine view. Attractive House. Good hall and cloakroom (h. and c. and w.c.), 2 rec. rooms (one 21 ft. long), exe. kitchen (Kase). Electric light. Main water. Capital buildings, garden and productive land, largely choice young dessert apples, etc.

£4,250 OR OFFER

Sole Agents: Cheltenham (as above).

COTSWOLDS, Cheltenham 4 miles LONGWOOD HOUSE, CLEEVE HILL



A fine modern House, secluded, in 2 ACRES, with wonderful south view. Hall and cloakroom (h. and c. and w.c.), 3 good reception, compact domestic offices, 4 bed. (3 h. and c.), 2 bathrooms, staff wing of 3 rooms and bathroom. Main services. Central heat. Double garage.

Stables. Garden and woodland.

Joint Agents: Cheltenham (as above), and JACKSON-STOPS, Cirencester, Glos. Tel. 334.

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(Near EAST GRINSTEAD)
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GLORIOUS SUSSEX IN THE HEART OF KIPLING'S COUNTRY

Tunbridge Wells 12 miles, Burwash 2 miles.



A GENUINE OLD SUSSEX FARMHOUSE in a delightful setting. Fully restored and modernised. 3 bedrooms, bathroom, dining room, 20-ft. lounge, cloakroom, "American" kitchen, breakfast annexe. Main services. Radiators. Garage. Stables and cowhouse. 5 ACRES. FREEHOLD £5,975. Ref. 1363.

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Cophorne golf links 1 mile. 3 miles main line (electric) station.

Quiet unspoilt country setting



A substantially built and well-arranged small Country House. 3 reception rooms, cloakroom, kitchen with Aga, 4 bedrooms, bathroom. Det. garage. Stable. Pretty garden, paddock and orchard. 6 ACRES. Main services. FREEHOLD ONLY £5,250. Ref. 1365.

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High up with glorious views. Crouborough golf links 1 mile.

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A really "specimen" house, built in 1938 in the Tudor style, in a picked position. All woodwork in oak, and pine strip flooring. 4 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, cloakroom, kitchen. Main services. Central heating. Double garage and stable. Paddock. 6 ACRES. FREEHOLD £6,500. Ref. 1105.

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Dating back to reign of Edward III.
Scheduled as of Architectural and
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With good Fruit and Mixed Farm.

IN ALL 225 ACRES

Part of woods scheduled by the Nature Con-
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Main electricity, main water, central heating.

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Approached, but well set back, from the
Great North Road.

4 reception rooms, billiards room, double
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Oil-fired central heating. Main services.

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The whole property is in first-class repair
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GEORGIAN COUNTRY HOUSE



Hall, cloak., sitting room
(25 ft. by 14 ft.), dining
room, study, 5 bedrooms,
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Central heating. Mains.

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1½ ACRES

2 Freehold Building
Plots each 1 acre.

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2 BEDROOMS,

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ROOMS, BATHROOM,

KITCHEN.

Main water and electricity.

1½ ACRES including
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A DETACHED STONE-BUILT COTSWOLD COTTAGE

with ¾ ACRE of garden, about 500 feet above sea level in a pretty village on the
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A DETACHED DOUBLE-FRONTED COUNTRY HOUSE

situated on the outskirts of this well-known village. 4 bedrooms, bathroom, 2-3
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A SOUNDLY-BUILT SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE

in a good residential position. 6 bedrooms, bathroom, 4 reception rooms, domestic
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conveniently situated near colleges. 18 rooms, 2 bathrooms, domestic offices.
Garage. Walled garden. Ideal for conversion, educational purposes, guest house,
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On edge of charming village, 11 miles coast.

WELL-BUILT EARLY GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

5 principal and 6 other beds, 3 rec. (one 45 ft. by 15 ft.), 2 bath., offices (Aga).
MAIN WATER AND ELECTRIC. GARAGE AND OUTBUILDINGS
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Lovely rural position, 7 miles Rye (famous golf).

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4 bed., bath., 2 rec., kitchen, etc. Small farmery, 55 ACRES (27 wood). Useful
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£3,000 MORTGAGE AT 5 PER CENT. PROBABLY AVAILABLE
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BOTH OVERLOOKING AND ADJOINING A WELL-KNOWN UNSPOILT COMMON

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FULLY MODERNISED AND
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2 BEDROOMS AND BATHROOMEXCELLENT OUTBUILDINGS, INCLUD-
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Lovely matured gardens, ABOUT 1½ ACRE.

FREEHOLD £8,500

AN ENCHANTING BLACK AND WHITE TUDOR RESIDENCE

CAREFULLY AND SYMPATHETICALLY RESTORED AND MODERNISED WITHOUT DETRACTING FROM ITS OLD-WORLD CHARM

Hall, cloakroom, delightful lounge
18 ft. by 15 ft., dining room 18 ft.
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rooms, 2 bathrooms, nursery and
2 bedrooms, excellent fitted
cupboards.

Central heating, all main services.

Detached garage. Pleasant
informal gardens and tennis court.

ABOUT ¾ ACRE

FREEHOLD £7,500

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AND 13 BRANCH OFFICES

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NEW FOREST BORDERS

5 miles Christchurch — 3 miles New Milton
Close main Bournemouth-Lymington road.A BEAUTIFULLY MODERNISED 17th-CENTURY
FARMHOUSE. Cloaks, 3 recep., luxury kitchen with Aga,
5 bed., dressing room, 2 bath. (one en suite). Main water
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Inc. Tax 4s. No Sur Tax or Death Duty.

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CHARACTER HOUSE overlooking harbour, 3 miles
St. Helier. Unique features incl. Jacobean staircase.
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½ mile village and sea, close forest.



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Lounge, kitchen with Aga and dining recess, 4 bedrooms,
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A DISTINCTIVE MODERN PRE-WAR BUNGALOW
600 ft. up on the Chiltern Hills.Exceptional in construction, perfect condition. Entrance hall 11 ft. by 8 ft.,
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Surrounded by open forest. Altitude 250 feet. Near village.

MODERNISED AND IN FIRST-RATE ORDER

Loggia, Hall, cloak, lounge
(18 ft. by 17 ft.), dining
room, kitchen with Aga,
compact offices, 4½ bed-
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Mains water and electricity.

TERRACED GARDEN
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ABOUT 2 ACRES



OFFERS ON £6,550 CONSIDERED

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The whole extending to about **6 ACRES**
Adjacent to and with land adjoining
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with cloakroom, drawing room, dining room, 5 bedrooms,
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Situate in an exclusive residential district adjacent to beach.

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Main services.

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Pulborough main line railway station 3 miles.

4 bedrooms, drawing room, dining room, kitchen, bath-
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London under an hour.

AN ATTRACTIVE 17th CENTURY FARMHOUSE RESIDENCE

with 1½ acres secluded garden.

3 RECEPTION ROOMS
(including study),
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All main services.

DOUBLE GARAGE,
STABLING, etc.

EXCELLENT COTTAGE

PRICE £7,250 FREEHOLD**J. CARTER JONAS AND SONS**

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CAMBRIDGE

In a first-class position.

A LUXURIOUSLY APPOINTED RESIDENCE

With uninterrupted views over the University Farm and to Madingley Hill.

Containing 3 reception
rooms, 5 bedrooms, 2 bath-
rooms, modern kitchen,
sun loggia.

2 Garages.

Special features: Central
heating throughout, fitted
wardrobes and wash hand
basins in all bedrooms.

Fine garden.

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A property worthy of the highest recommendation, replete with every conceivable convenience, representing the acme of comfort, with a minimum of upkeep.

PICTURESQUE MODERN TUDOR-STYLE RESIDENCE



With entrance hall, 2 fine reception rooms, sun lounge, 4 bedrooms, dressing room, excellent bathroom, unusually fine domestic offices.
Tiled loggia.
2 SUMMER HOUSES
2 GARAGES
All companies' mains.
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A detached gabled residence of the older style occupying a corner site on two floors only and recently modernised and redecorated regardless of expense.
Hall, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, sun loggia, conservatory, breakfast room, 6 bedrooms (1 with hot and cold), dressing room (hot and cold), luxury bathroom. Ample electric light and power points.
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An excellent detached brick and tiled residence within a few minutes' walk tennis club, squash courts and about 8 minutes' from town and station.

3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, dressing room (h. and c.), 2 bathrooms, playroom.

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2 GARAGES

Semi-circular drive and garden of about 3/4 ACRE.

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BUCKS

RURAL SITUATION, SOUTH ASPECT
CLOSE TO A CHARMING VILLAGE WITH BUSES



The very attractive residence is excellently appointed with central heating, oak floors and main services.

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GARAGE FOR 2

Attractive grounds with tennis court, small paddock, etc.

ABOUT 1 ACRE

FREEHOLD £5,850. POSSESSION

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HERTS — ABOUT 30 MINUTES TOWN

FINE MODERN RESIDENCE
Few minutes' walk from a park.



3 reception, small study, cloakroom, 5 bed., 2 bathrooms.

GARAGE 3 CARS

Main services.

SPLENDID GARDEN

Mostly lawn and woodland and easy to maintain, the area being

ABOUT 2 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

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UNUSUALLY ATTRACTIVE MODERN RESIDENCE

With a good entrance hall and cloakroom, 3 excellent reception rooms, 5 bedrooms (basins h. and c.), bathroom, compact offices.

BRICK-BUILT GARAGE and USEFUL OUTBUILDINGS

Beautifully laid-out garden with lawns, flower beds, hard tennis court, fruit trees, etc.

Additional land available if required.



£6,750 FREEHOLD

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LOVELY SITUATION ON WEST SUSSEX COAST

Attractive gardens with long frontage to a fine sandy beach.

ATTRACTIVE MARINE RESIDENCE

Comprises lounge hall, 2 other large reception rooms and glazed loggia and sun room, 8 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, enclosed sun balcony.

EXCELLENT SUMMER HOUSE
DOUBLE GARAGE, etc.

Main services.



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EAST DEVON COAST

In the favourite Budleigh Salterton district.

FASCINATING MODERN HOUSE ON TWO FLOORS ONLY

With large lounge hall, 3 excellent reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, basins in all bedrooms.

All co.'s mains.

Partial central heating.
GARAGE FOR 2 CARS
STABLING

Excellent cottage with 3 bedrooms, bathroom, etc. Delightful grounds with lawns, herbaceous borders, full-size tennis court, fruit trees—in all about

2 ACRES



FOR SALE, PRICE £8,000

HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1. (Telephone: KENington 1490. Extn. 806.)

NEAR AYLESBURY — ONLY £3,950 FREEHOLD

Secluded but not isolated
A LONG, LOW RESIDENCE WITH A HANDSOME GEORGIAN PORCH

LARGE ROOMS

Main services.

3 RECEPTION ROOMS.

5 BEDROOMS

(2 h. and c.).

BATHROOM

DOUBLE GARAGE

STABLING

and

2-STORY BUILDING

60 ft. long, used as kennels.

Garden, orchard, etc.

ABOUT 1 ACRE



POSSESSION

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16th CENTURY RESIDENCE IN BUCKS

Amidst pleasant surroundings about 1 1/2 miles from Marlow.
A HOUSE OF CHARM AND CHARACTER

HALL, 3 RECEPTION,
6 BEDROOMS,
2 BATHROOMS

Central heating.

Main electric light and water.

GARAGE 2 CARS

Large barn and useful outbuildings.

Pleasure grounds with lawn and orchard, also meadow land. Total area about

12 ACRES



FOR SALE FREEHOLD AS A WHOLE OR WITH ABOUT 1 1/2 ACRES

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30 MILES WEST OF LONDON

Including

WONDERFUL XVth CENTURY MANOR HOUSE

WITH GREAT HALL, 4 RECEPTION ROOMS, 10 BED AND DRESSING ROOMS,
BATHROOMS, ETC.

ALL ON TWO FLOORS AND VERY EASY TO RUN
COMPLETE CENTRAL HEATING

Fine old Tithe barn, dovecote, stabling, garages and small farmery. Pleasure gardens,
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393 ACRES in hand, including valuable woodland and farmhouse.

SECONDARY RESIDENCE and 3 Farms let off and producing £1,260 per annum.

THE WHOLE ESTATE EXTENDS TO ABOUT 804 ACRES,
AFFORDING EXCELLENT SHOOTING

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In the unspoilt country around Herstmonceux, conveniently
placed for Eastbourne and Brighton-on-Sea.

**TWO OLD TUDOR COTTAGES CLEVERLY
CONVERTED INTO ONE**



STANDING HIGH IN 3 ACRES

with pretty water garden, orchard, excellent bush fruit
enclosure and 2 small paddocks. 3 bedrooms, modern
bathroom, 2 reception rooms with oak beams and inglenooks,
good offices. GARAGE. Main water, main electricity. Rateable value £33. Personally inspected.

EAST SUSSEX, £7,000 FREEHOLD

Backing on to the lovely Sussex Downs, close to Jevington
and Eastbourne, 2 miles from line station.

**EXQUISITE ELIZABETHAN COTTAGE
IN IMPECCABLE ORDER THROUGHOUT**



Hidden in an enchanting garden of about 1 ACRE,
having a swimming pool as a special feature and a well-
stocked kitchen garden. 5 bedrooms, 2 luxury bathrooms,
3 reception rooms with a profusion of lovely oak tim-
bering, model kitchen. GARAGE. All services.
Personally inspected.

EAST SUSSEX, £4,350 FREEHOLD

Near the beautiful village of East Dean, about 1 mile from
Birling Gap and 3 miles from Eastbourne.

**COPY OF AN OLD SUSSEX FARMHOUSE
VERY GREATLY REDUCED IN PRICE**



In prettily timbered grounds and everything in admir-
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h. and c.), modern fitted bathroom, 2 sitting rooms,
up-to-date kitchen. GARAGE. Main electric light.
Co.'s water. Main drainage. Rates under £31 per annum.
Personally inspected.

HOAR & SANDERSON, F.V.I.

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**IN TRIANGLE
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A VERY ATTRACTIVE MODERN HOME in lovely elevated rural surroundings
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w.c., hall, large lounge, dining room, tiled kitchen. Built-in garage. Garden w.c.
Mod. services. 1 ACRE virtually non-maintainable, an extra 1 ACRE available
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SUITABLE PROFESSIONAL PURPOSES OR SUB-DIVISION. Most
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Space for garages. **FREEHOLD £4,000. OFFERS INVITED**
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STANDING HIGH WITH SOUTHERN ASPECT
PERFECTLY MAINTAINED AND FITTED MODERN CHARACTER
RESIDENCE, 12 minutes' walk Woking Station (Waterloo 27 minutes). 4 beds.
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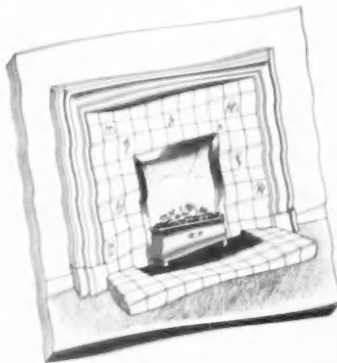
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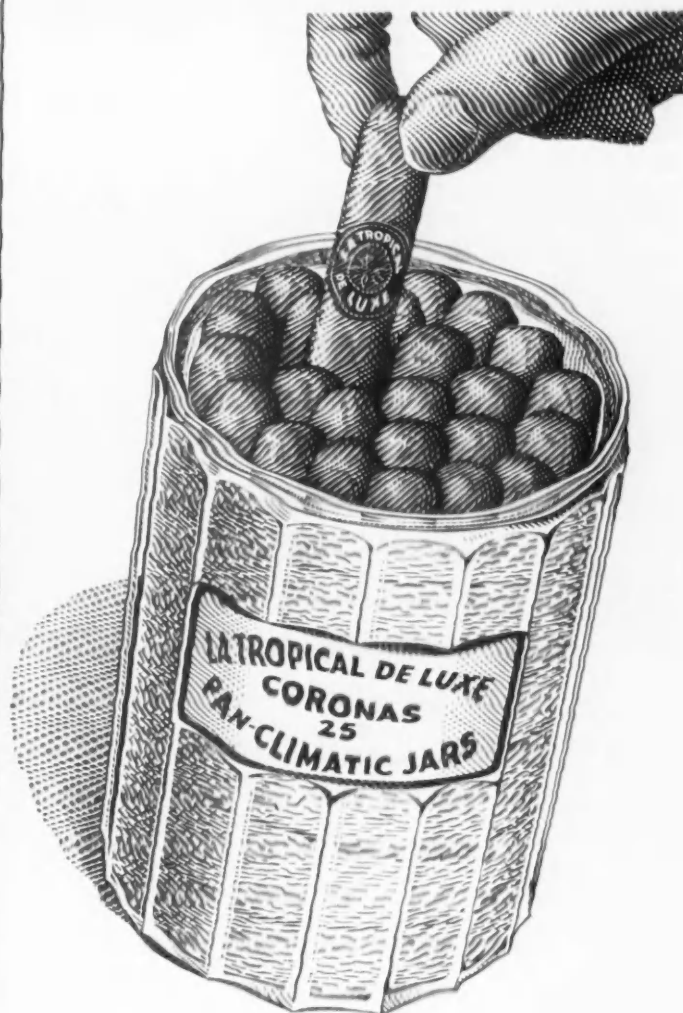
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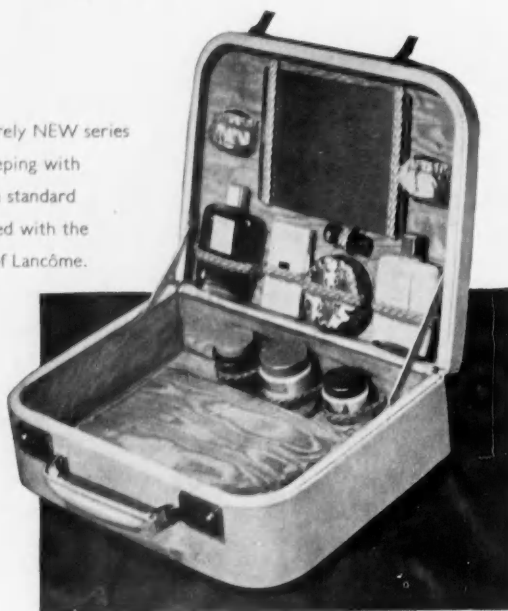


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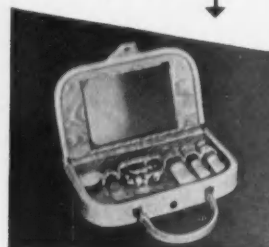


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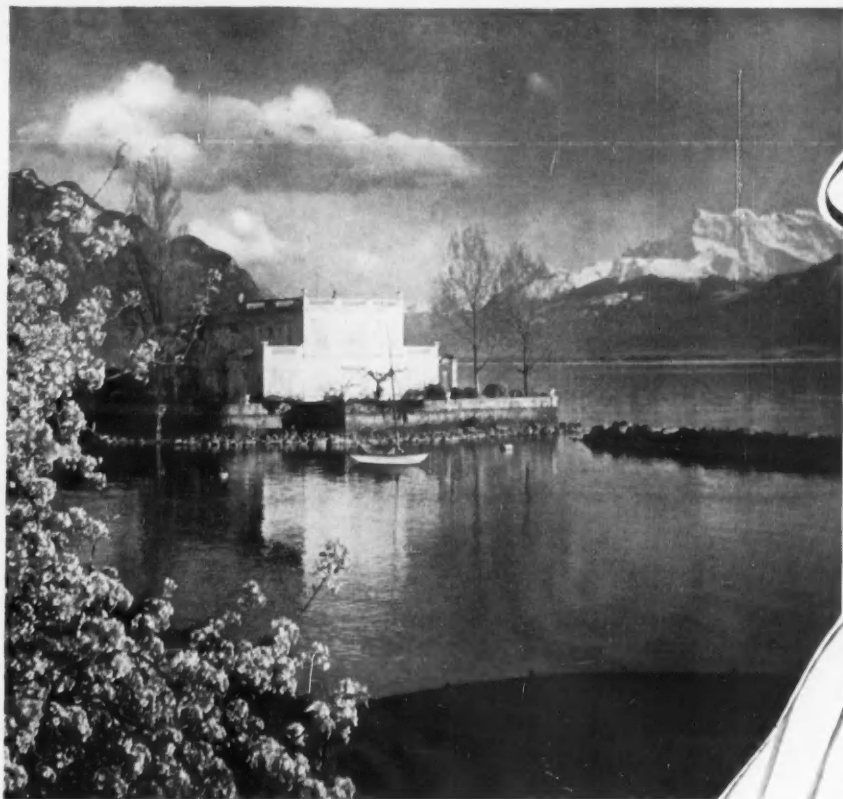
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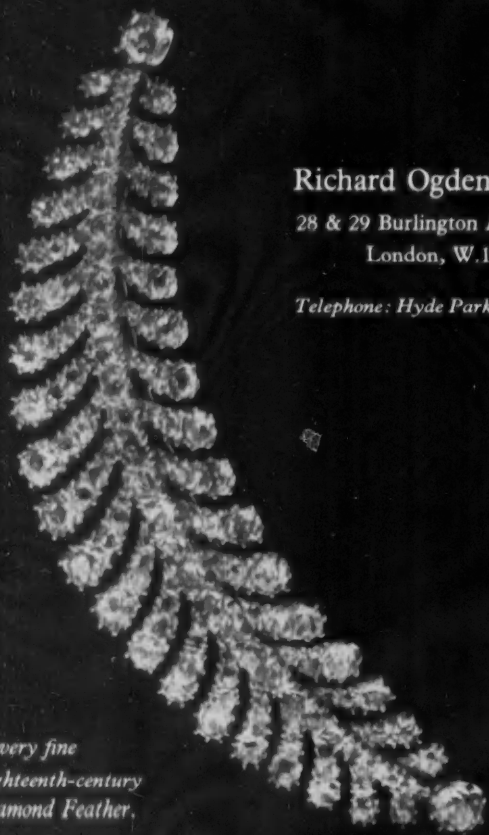
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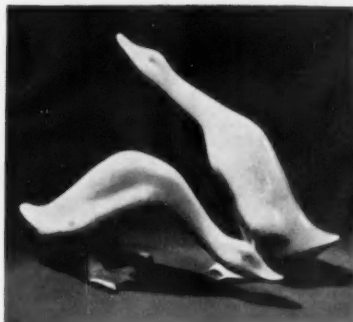
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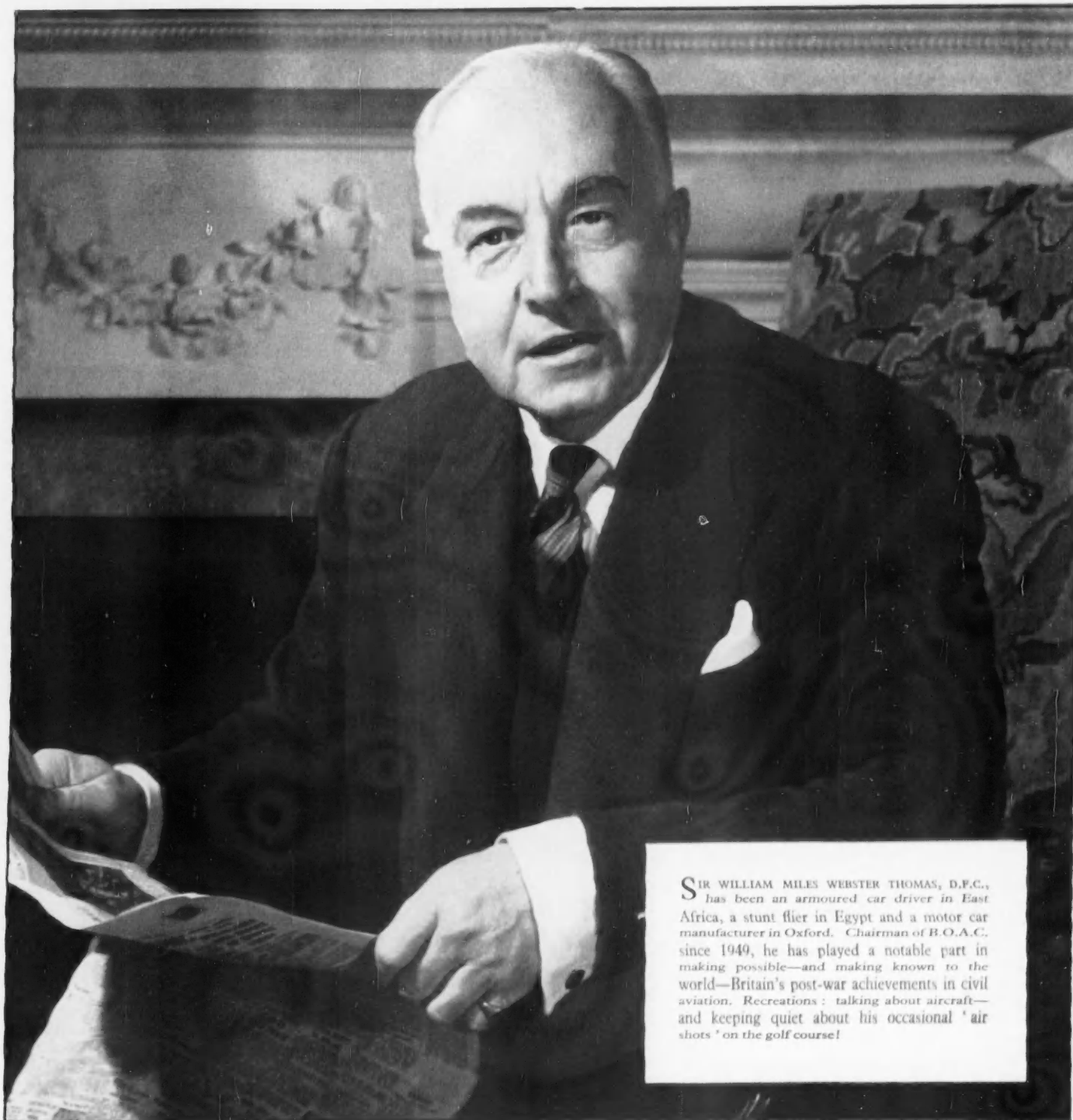
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DECEMBER 1, 1955



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THE FORESTRY PROGRAMME

THE Government's decision, announced very clearly after the Crichton Down enquiry, to return land acquired by Departments of State—wherever possible—to private ownership gives additional interest to this year's report of the Agricultural Land Commission. The area in the hands of the Commission, as the Minister of Agriculture told the House of Commons last week, is now about 228,000 acres. Between 60,000 and 70,000 acres are (or shortly will be) available for sale, and the necessary arrangements are in hand. Sales already completed or agreed cover 10,000 acres valued at over £400,000. The change in policy has led to 4,228 acres being withdrawn from the Commission during the past year. Another 5,104 acres were placed under the Commission's control for various reasons, and there was thus a net addition of 876 acres, against an increase of 10,118 acres in 1953-54. The whole of the 228,000 acres have been reviewed, and the Minister's conclusion is that much of this land must be retained in Government ownership—either temporarily or permanently—but largely because it has been acquired for forestry purposes and will eventually be planted. It is worth noting that the only land received during the year by the Commission in Wales was 1,644 acres of farm-land on estates acquired mainly for forestry purposes, and the 1,842 acres under this heading in England represent 53 per cent. of the total land acquired.

Almost at the same time as these facts were being given to the House of Commons Lord Mansfield was complaining in the House of Lords that the programme of forestry expansion announced by the Forestry Commission in 1943 was being slowed down by the shortage of available land. There can be no doubt about this, for in their *Annual Report* the Commissioners have been forced to accept the unpalatable fact that after this year their planting programme will not only stop increasing (as it has done since the end of the war) but will, in fact, fall. The 1943 programme envisaged a woodland area expanded to five million acres in twenty years. If this is now impossible, what are the reasons? Lord Mansfield was dealing mainly with the situation in Scotland, but much of what he said applies to England and Wales. The particularly Scottish problem is the unfortunate difference of opinion that arises over the varying claims of sheep and trees. In Lord Mansfield's opinion the forestry "lobby" is a very weak one, whereas the sheep-farming "lobby" is extremely strong. He thinks there is no doubt that in all too many cases the sheep "lobby" succeeds in persuading the Scottish Department of Agriculture to issue orders that the Forestry Commission may not acquire land they wish to

buy. This may be an over-simplification of the matter, but Lord Mansfield made out an excellent case from the point of view of the rural population of the Highlands for trees as against sheep. On the other hand, he thinks that the Forestry Commission have made their mistakes by planting land which is too good for timber. He suggests that, instead of acquiring and planting out the whole of some of the hill farms in the southern uplands of Scotland, the Commission should take only an area of 5 to 25 per cent. of the farms and plant large shelter belts which would both increase our timber reserve and be of much value to the sheep farmers.

Lord Mansfield regards the general slowing down of the afforestation programme as a disaster to the taxpayer as well as the planter because of the number of young trees which will be wasted. When seeds are sown in a forestry nursery 3½ to 4 years elapse before they are planted out. If the programme is slowed down sharply, many millions of trees must be wasted in nurseries because once the trees pass the age

THE HOLLY-HUNG NIGHT

*THIS is the holly-hung night,
Night of a lovely liaison
Between inanimate things,
Brought together for Christmas,
With their tribute, like the Three Kings,
When green in tribal glory on the wall
Exchanges signals with the flickering embers,
And the shimmer of shaken tinsel
And a scent of resin in the hall
Whisper with memories of past Decembers,
When it seems there is always a star
To look through the window on the landing
And shine on the silence and the watching hour
With a secret understanding.
Small things, most beautiful and right,
Together come for Christmas
And the lighted hour of their holly-hung night.*

EGAN MACKINLAY.

of four—or at most five—they cannot be kept any longer. The threat of loss to the taxpayer is bound, Lord Mansfield suggests, to force the Commission to use more freely their powers of compulsion, which would spoil their relations—now so cordial—with private owners.

THE PICTURESQUE'S FUTURE

THE importance of the visual element in planning and design was, appropriately, Lord Crawford's theme in his presidential address to the National Trust's annual meeting held at Manchester last week. Villages which can be adapted to modern needs are being rebuilt without variety or personality, looking alike from Cornwall to Caithness, he said. The local character and beauty of towns are being replaced with standardised pseudo-modernism, and every kind of cable and wire that can and should be carried underground is merging even relatively unspoilt places into universal "subtopia." As chairman also of the Royal Fine Art Commission, Lord Crawford knows better than anyone else that this production of ghastliness has been increased by the greater freedom now accorded to private-enterprise development and building. But public and local authorities are still often the worst offenders, whether in the siting and design of electrical generating stations or merely the sanctioning of vile designs for individual houses. Much of this hideousness can be avoided by reasonable insistence on tidiness and on established principles of lay-out and design, as numerous good examples of council houses and indeed private building have shown. There can be little hope, in most localities, of maintaining local character by using local materials. But a great deal can be done by authorities allowing architects to exercise their visual sense in the grouping, scale and colouring of new buildings, and in converting instead of demolishing old ones.

RABBIT CLEARANCE

SIXTEEN peers spoke in the House of Lords debate on rabbit clearance last week, and not one deplored the spread of myxomatosis

over four-fifths of the country. As Lord Listowel said in opening the debate, "Some methods of killing rabbits are more painful than others, and the only way to avoid inflicting pain, the humanitarians rightly argue, is to get rid of rabbits once and for all." It is remarkable that responsible opinion, which is often well expressed in the Lords, has so quickly swung round to accept myxomatosis and press for the most effective measures to mop-up the remaining rabbits. The Ministry of Agriculture expects that two-thirds of England and Wales will shortly become clearance areas, where it will be the responsibility of the occupier to get rid of the last rabbit on his land. If he does not do anything effective within a month of the time when rabbits are reported on his land, the pests officer of the county agricultural committee can send in men and equipment to kill off the rabbits and the cost will be charged to the occupier. A few landowners have objected to this threatened intrusion on their private property, but Lord Amhurst of Hackney was speaking for most when he said that "the man who has a few rabbits on his land is as welcome as the man who comes to a party suffering from a heavy dose of influenza." The most critical time of all is this winter, when the number of wild rabbits is probably at its lowest for over a century. It has been made an offence to move diseased rabbits about the country. There is a much stronger case for stopping traffic in healthy rabbits which could start the trouble all over again in areas which are now clear.

A GREAT UMPIRE

IF the man in the street were asked to think of a famous cricket umpire, one name would instantly spring to his lips and perhaps only one, that of Frank Chester. Now Chester has announced his retirement, and since he did one thing better than anyone else in the world, he has, as Hazlitt wrote of Cavanagh, the fives player, left a gap in society. When he was on the field he dominated it in a way given to no other member of his exacting craft. To be a good umpire needs many qualities: a precise knowledge of the rules which can instantly be called on, an intense power of concentrated observation and a wise, fearless determination. All these things Chester had, as well as a notable personality. Sir Donald Bradman has declared that he was the greatest umpire he ever played under, and the world of cricket has endorsed that opinion. If he had not lost a hand in the first war, Chester would in all probability have been a famous player. As it was, he did service to the game difficult adequately to measure. We realise what a good umpire is worth when we see how a game can get out of hand with an inefficient one—as witness the recent football match between Wales and Austria, which the referee proved incapable of controlling and which seems to have degenerated into something like a free fight.

AN UNHOLY ALLIANCE

IT used once to be deemed a fair and equal contest between proctors and undergraduates, in which each did its best in an honourable way to defeat the other. Now the *Cherwell*, an undergraduate newspaper at Oxford which may or may not take an unprejudiced view, complains that the proctors are getting help from the police. It seems that policemen, who used to turn a blind, or even an actively friendly, eye on a young gentleman climbing into college after licit hours now arrest him and hand him over to his own college porter. Whether this is done, if it is done, on the pretext that the mountaineer might be a burglar we are not told, but there does seem something a little unfair in the police throwing their weight into the scale in what was in elder days considered an honest man-to-man stand-up fight. The trivial-minded will call it "unsportsmanship"; those of more serious political views may see in it an "extension of the managerial state." The proctor has his bulldogs, and they should surely suffice. This alarming principle may soon be extended to schools. A policeman coming suddenly and silently behind a boy preparing his lesson will say: "I see you are using one of Mr. Bohn's excellent translations. That is not allowed," and instantly lead him, crib-handed, before the headmaster.

A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES

By IAN NIALL

THE Yule log is something most of us are more accustomed to seeing on Christmas cards or even confectioners' trays than on the hearth, simply because the average modern fireplace is not designed to take a log of any size. When this is not so, the chimney is usually of the sort that lets rain and hail down and one must wear wellingtons instead of carpet slippers and be prepared against suffocation at the first change in the wind. This is perhaps the blackest of views, but I was brought up to old-fashioned fireplaces that would burn a peat stack or a big moss block. The smoke stack was wide enough to let owls down without blackening their plumage. One could see the sky without stretching one's neck too much, and when the light could not be seen, which was once in a blue moon, a man was sent up a ladder and lowered a stone on a rope into the room. It needed only a little effort to pull a good-sized bush down to clear the chimney. The thing to do after that was to make off to the woods with the gun and a dog while the women fussed and cleaned up the soot. It saved bringing a sweep a long way from town. Some people used to take the shot out of a cartridge and discharge a gun in the chimney, but the rope-and-stone method was just as easy.

I HAVE been looking round for a suitable log for our Christmas fire. Usually by this time we have laid in a stock of logs from one of the dealers, but this year they either have no logs to offer or have found something even more profitable in which to deal. There are no oak trees on the ground at the cottage but one or two of ash. We could prune an ancient apple tree, but not all apple burns without spluttering and sparking. There remains the prospect of sawing up some old beams or finding some decaying pine trunks in the debris up in the wood.

One winter I went in search of wood for the fire and came upon a tree already cut into sections but left in the undergrowth. I set about cutting it to a size that would fit the grate and found that the wood, which had been water-logged, was frozen through and almost ruined the saw. After a great amount of effort I put the logs on the fire, where they burned sullenly until they thawed and then blazed away in next to no time. They were pine logs, and pine never lasts very long.

IF we are without logs, we should not be short of holly this season in my part of the world, for the trees and bushes I have seen lately are well spattered with red berries. The hawthorns are carrying enough for the birds if a hard spell comes. I am always fascinated to see how the more perishable berries are taken first. A hard winter is supposed to be on the way, but not until after Christmas. I wonder how many white Christmases we have had since 1900. The printers and painters of Christmas cards would surely be put out to find themselves confronted with the evidence, for it seems to me that we have more mild Christmases than cold ones and certainly more snowless Christmases than white ones. Snow on Christmas Day may look very pretty, but I much prefer it dry and clean underfoot, and I hope we have the sort of season that does not make it necessary to shovel snow and dodge avalanches from the roof. In the good old days, of course, it was always much colder and the Christmases were white; but, then, whisky was five shillings a bottle and other incredible things happened. Great-grandfather, who was a Spartan, walked nobody knows how many miles with only a handful of meal in his pocket and nothing to drink but water, and his brother, with the crudest of fowling pieces, brought down a covey of partridges that gets larger and larger with every telling.



Reece Winstone

WHAT WILL HE BRING FOR ME?

Certain fantasies are essential in any conception of the good old days and Christmases past. My own impressions may be of milder weather and less hard times, but even I have to resist a suggestion of bitter winter that really comes from some old journals my mother used to have. Most of the pictures were of sleighs in the streets of St. Petersburg, but that was a different sort of snow, dry and healthy, that never churned to slush. The citizens of St. Petersburg, incidentally, rode sleighs the year round in my childish imagination and showed only a small part of their faces from mounds of fur. I have a feeling that they had no plumbing troubles at all. At the cottage most of our water runs in iron pipes and none of these is too far below the surface of the ground. It may be Scrooge-like to wish to have a mild Christmas, but we are anxious to do without the plumber.

THERE was a time, long ago, when I could have had handfuls of gamecock hackles, feathers of guinea-fowl and turkey and many others without trouble, but I had not then taken to fly-tying. The disease came upon me a little more than a year ago. I wanted to tie some dry-flies and discovered that the best hackles come from cocks at least two years old, for when the bird has moulted its new plumage is brighter and the fibres of the hackles are stiffer. It takes a good stiff hackle to support a fly on the water. Unfortunately, longevity in cockerels is becoming rare, owing to the fashion for keeping hens in batteries or on deep litter. Even cockerels reared for the pot are not likely

to reach the true moult, for no one wants a tough, stringy bird. Good hackles are scarce as a result. At the cottage we have one cockerel in prime condition, but the hackles I need are anything but light badger.

I WAS talking to a friend about this and he advised me not to despair. I should, he said, cultivate a poultry dealer before Christmas and so gain access to his larder, for not every bird that gets its neck wrung for Christmas is in the first flush of youth. Some farmers who keep birds round the door like to clear the ground and turn their stragglers into cash, and I might find a few good hackles in an assorted lot of birds. Some wet-fly fishermen manage to get all they want in the way of hackles at this time of year, but for wet-fly fishing the hackles need not be of the best and are better soft than stiff. I made a move to come by hackles last year, but did not think of going to a poultry dealer. I asked a farmer friend about it. The birds he was preparing for market turned out to be hens culled from his deep-litter flock. I finished up with a bagful of cinnamon hackles, which I have been passing on to friends ever since.

At one of the villages up the river I noticed that they keep bantams, and when I commented on this to a fishing acquaintance I was told that I could buy one of these birds for 15s. The owners of the bantams keep them solely for the hackle capes. For 15s. they will kill the bird and hand over the feathers. Bantam pie would be an expensive luxury for anyone but a fly-tying enthusiast.

CHRISTMAS ON THE SALTINGS

By J. WENTWORTH DAY

EBBING tide and thin sunlight under a china blue sky, ribbed by white cirrus, transform the saltings into a palette of quietly glowing colours. This half-land of the sea, outside the low and snowy rampart of the sea-wall, is almost the last of primeval England. It belongs neither to the dry farm-lands, with their elm-bordered fields, nor to the wet wilderness of the sea. It is child of both.

In the depths of winter a grey-green prairie of desolation, ribbed with patches of snow where the tide cannot quite overflow the peat-ways, black where the waters have gone with the pull of the tide. In late summer purple with sea lavender, and in spring-green through all the changing nuances of greenery. But in autumn and the sun-quiet days of winter round about Christmas these salt meadows, the "ings" of the old Saxon language, are a quiet land of glowing colours and of birds.

Lying in the pale winter sun far out on

Far out in the estuary a Scandinavian timber-boat, painted blue and white, is loading its yellow baulks of sawn trees from the far forests of Finland into a string of barges. A little grey-green tug, with a red-and-white funnel, lies squatly in the glittering water, waiting to pull its string of barges on their foaming way up river to the red roofs and quiet churches of the old Saxon town on its little hill, where once they fought that three-day battle of which you may read the epic tale in *The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*. History treads softly and very much alive on these moorlands of the sea.

A pair of carrion crows, cawing their cold death notes, come low over the tide from a far line of clouded-topped elms on the island where the Danes had their stockaded camp. They flop down, like black witches, on the farthest mud-spit, stand for an instant immobile, then waddle to the tide's edge to crack mussels, or seek stranded fish or wounded fowl.

frosty fields from that other estuary far to the south, looking like a black cross-bow against the clear blue sky. He descends in a quick, flickering slide to within a few feet of the water, alights where the channel is no more than a few feet deep, sits for a moment motionless on the sliding tide and then, without a dive or apparent effort, sinks like a stone beneath the surface. A moment ago he was there. Now he has gone. It is an odd habit of the cormorant, this power of effortless submersion, which, apparently, he practises only in shallow water. So far as one can see, his main prey in these shallow creeks are fingerling eels and small flat fish.

Cormorants have increased tremendously on the Essex coast within the last twenty years or so, and there is no doubt that they do immense damage to the inshore fisheries. Whereas, twenty or thirty years ago, one seldom saw more than half a score in a day's trawling, to-day the coast is alive with them. There is a



THE RIVER BLACKWATER AT MALDON, ESSEX, ON ITS WAY TO THE SALTINGS AND THE SEA

the outermost point, where two broad creeks mingle their tide in the salt bosom of that great and lonely estuary which has changed little since the Danish longships came under bellying sail and thrashing oars, one senses the peace and other worldliness of this kingdom of the scuttling crabs and feeding curlew, where sandpipers flit up the gulleys, redshank go into ecstasies of alarm and gulls twist in aerial fantasy.

Sandhoppers spring on the honey-coloured gun-stock, or settle for an instant on the blue barrels, warming in the sun. Grey plover go scything low over the opal muds, and a heron, blue-grey in the sun, an echo from the Elizabethan England of the falconer with peregrine on wrist, drifts like a blown rag, settles with an ungainly flop on the edge of a mud-spit and wades delicately into the shallows. There he will stand, silver-grey and ghostly, waiting for fish to swim to him attracted, the ancients will tell you, by a strange fish-oil which oozes from his legs, the bird's own irresistible ground-bait.

The gun, after all, is a mere excuse for a long and lazy afternoon, alone with the silence of the sea, the wind whistling quietly through hairy bent-grass, crusted with whitened shells of tiny crabs. The world and its worries stop on hesitant feet a mile away, where the sea-wall marks the bounds between this desert and the sown.

Their like were here when the ravens nested in the far-off fathers of those elms, when these mud-rimmed creeks rang with the blood-chilling "Yuch-hey-saa-saa!" of the Danish raiders, when the Eastern Saxons swarmed knee-deep into the flood to meet them with flashing sword and singing arrows, and all the tides ran red. That is why the wild-fowlers and the winklers, those leathern-faced men who gain their hard living from trawl and freezing mud, still call them the Denchmen, the Danish-men.

I am no lover of crows, either black or grey, for they are ghouls in feathers. But they are fun to watch. After that first suspicious survey of opal muds and shining tide, they get down to business. First one, then another, finds a stranded mussel. Gripping his prize firmly, each bird takes off, flies a few yards to the sea-wall, faced with Kentish ragstone, hovers ten or a dozen feet for an instant, and then drops his prize on to the hard stone. Ten to one the mussel is cracked. If it is, that dagger of a beak plucks it out and down it goes in one voracious gulp. If the shell merely bounces, uncracked, to the bottom the bird picks it up again and drops it from a greater height—just to make sure. It is merely another version of the action of the thrush who cracks his snail on a stone.

A cormorant comes winnowing over the

great cormorant roost on a sandbank off the Black Grounds, to which, at dusk, I have seen them streaming in long black lines over the sea looking like a mediaeval fresco of hobgoblins, against the red of sunset.

I do not know if any painstaking bird-watcher has yet counted them, but, at a rough guess, I would say there were up to two thousand where, years ago, two hundred would have been a maximum population.

The oyster-catcher also has increased remarkably on these Essex tidal marshes in the last thirty years. Where he was once a comparatively uncommon bird, the "olive" is now an everyday bewitchment of the mud-flats. And that local name of his is surely a fascinating echo of history, for was not the oyster-catcher the favourite bird of St. Olaf, our East Coast Saint of days earlier than the Normans, whose name lives in different spelling, but no different sense, at St. Olaves, that half-forgotten village at the foot of the warm fir coverts of the Isle of Lothingland and the green and glittering plain of those estuarine marshes which cover the ancient bed of the almost vanished *Garianomum*?

The "olive" is back on these Essex mud-flats, not so much because he likes the mud, but because the set and turn and scour of tides in the Blackwater have, in the last twenty years or more, cast up great banks of shell and shingle



GOLDEN PLOVER AND DUNLIN AT A POOL AMONG THE SALTINGS

which glisten whitely in the bleak sea-sun, where, not long ago, there was nothing at high tide but the yeasty boil of a hidden "mud-horse."

To-day, shell and sand and shingle have been thrown up by the ancient whims of the sea on shallows and in seaways where little more than a quarter of a century ago the red-sailed, sprit-rigged barges thrashed their way up-stream, laden high with great barrels of Kentish beer, flying at their mastheads that little pennant with the red shrimp upon it which was the sign to all the coast of the coming of good ale.

There are, for that matter, at migration times, more greenshanks. Why, I do not know. But, of a surety, that tall and graceful bird, with the ivory bosom, the stilt-like legs of a ballet dancer, the long straight beak and that haunting "pleu! pleu! pleu!" is oftener seen. He is a touch of rare beauty. It is a pity to shoot him; though, to be sure, I have eaten him, roast, three or four times, and he has a rare and gamey flavour, with just that tang of the salt muds which is a touch upon the palate that you get in few birds. I think Brillat-Savarin would have loved him.

On that afternoon of sun and blue winter skies, with the tide moving like silk, a lingering greenshank flashed suddenly down-channel, with a peregrine hot on his tail. The wader twisted as he flew. He dashed between the triple masts of three beached dinghies, doing hairpin bends that would have defeated any driver in the Targa Florio, then twisted

amid the barn roofs and smokeless chimneys of Canney Farm, where once was a vanished duck decoy of great renown, and shooting low between the forefoot of a mustard stack and the blunt bows of a pig-sty, defeated his meteoric pursuer.

On the wind, sea-strong, came suddenly the faint "whe-oh" of wigeon, the note that ends the Indian summer of the saltings and sounds the first wind-trumpets of winter. Of all bird-voices that first note of wigeon is the most significant on salt waters. It means, to seaways and mud flats, the inevitable march of the seasons—that footstep of Time upon the threshold of winter which the "chack" of fieldfares and the flight of redwings herald to the shepherd on the upland fields and the ploughman on the stubbles.

The wigeon is a gallant, indestructible bird, a bird of all time, a witness of all history. He was here in his thousands when the Romans were in their camp-castle and the brazen eagles flew above the lonely flats where, to-day, bombers drone and fighters zoom, and all the ghastly acrobatics of death in the sky are played out in practice.

He was here in his clouds at dawn, half a century gone, when the "eely-grass" of the old punt-gunners and fishermen, the *Zostera marina*, waved above the shallow flats upon the rising tide in green and flowing masses. They will tell you, the old punters, that in those days, when the nor'easters blew out of "the main" like a gust of guns, although the sea might rise in its maned majesty and march upon the shallow

coasts in might invincible, the "eely-grass" held, subdued and tamed it. The white-horses became no more than long and oily waves which rose and flowed and trembled through the submarine forest of long and trailing grasses, "as long as my punt, master, and thass eighteen foot," as one old gunner put it.

The *zostera* was a great wave-break, a magnificent sea-defence. It was the answer to coastal erosion. It was the food of the black geese, the shouting, clanging multitudes of brent, which went cronking down the coast and were slain by the rude forefathers of the fishing hamlets in their thousands; the men who went, spritting their perilous ways down such a muddy creek as this, into the empty bosom of the sea, under the cold and yellow moon, to stalk their prey on the salt wastes with all the skill of their Viking ancestors, all the cunning of the sea-otters that still leave their quiet ways marked in the sea lavender, still dine, crunchingly, upon their "otter's altars" at the bend of the sea-wall or on the sheep-stank over the dyke, where their great-great-grandfathers dined on eels in misty centuries gone by.

The wind took a turn into the nor'-east and was chill. A heron blew over, gaunt and grey, to seek eels. Not a shot had been fired. But the sun was going down behind the landward elms in a blaze of burnt crimson and amber and apple-green. The curlew were fighting. A snipe rose from a dyke, and played spritely dances on his own for no reason but that he was glad. I picked up my gun and went home. It was a day well spent.



LOOKING ACROSS THE LONELY ESTUARY OF THE BLACKWATER TOWARDS OSEA ISLAND FROM NEAR STANSCLATE ABBEY

LIVING CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS

By CLIFFORD MORSLEY

THOSE delightful Christmas cards with pictures of a boar's head menaced by the knife of a rubicund cook, of a party of wassailers with their lanterns, or a Yule log being drawn home in triumph through the snow evoke each year in hundreds of homes the heavy statement that "Christmas is not what it used to be." Then follows a long discussion on the old traditions and there is much shaking of heads at their passing. Many good people tell one another how they wish they could roll back the centuries and enjoy them, being unaware that several of the oldest ones are still observed and many more have lapsed only during the last fifty years.

Of the old ceremonies none was more popular than those of Christmas Eve. In some parts of Yorkshire, where it is much more of a holiday than in the southern counties, many of the elderly folk refer to the evening of December 24 as "Frumity Night." They recall that in their young days it brought them a supper dish

which was almost as popular as the turkey and pudding of the following day. Indeed "frumity" was a general favourite in some districts right up to the last war and may yet be enjoyed at the tables of those who have the old recipe. Wheat is stewed for many hours and then boiled with milk and flour. Treacle serves as a sweetener and the delicious mixture is spiced with cinnamon. As soon as supper is ready and to remind the household of the star that took the Magi to Bethlehem the youngest member of the family lights the Yule candle. Great care is taken to ensure that none but the youngest does so, for if this rule is broken, or if anyone takes a light from the candle, trouble will come to the home before very long. At one time the rites of Frumity Night demanded that its other fare, Christmas cake, gingerbread and cheese, should always be set out on a pewter plate kept for the special purpose. A Yorkshire exile in London

assures me that he always eats Christmas cake and cheese together in the way of the folk at home.

When singing their carols in the villages of the North Riding children carry round a doll which represents the Holy Child. Its cradle is a box or basket which is decorated with evergreen and may also contain an apple and orange. It is known as the vessel cup, a name which is obviously derived from wassail bowl. In ancient days the carollers passed round such a bowl among the wealthier inhabitants and bought spiced ale with the money that was given them. In the West Country the wassailers more often got their refreshment right away, from the householder's own store. One typical party in Somerset in more recent years would gather at the "Big House" on Christmas Eve and give the greeting: "We are your jolly wassailers; bring out your good cheer." Their reward was a mixture of hot ale, gin, whipped eggs and nutmeg, served in a great cup which was swept from mouth to mouth. After rubbing their stomachs in appreciation they voiced the traditional thanks and good wishes. "Aye, this here du waarm the cockles o' yer heart, this du. Bless yer house in the next year." And then they moved further up the village to their next call.

Farmers in many counties extended their hospitality to the apple trees, to be certain of good weather and good crops next season. They would eat cake and drink cider with their friends and afterwards take their guests with them to the orchard. Hot cake would be placed on the fork of the largest tree and smothered in cider while the women shouted a supplication:

*Bear blue, apples and pears enow,
Barn fulls, bag fulls, sack fulls.
Hurrah! hurrah! hurrah!*

At the same time the men contributed to the noise by firing their guns. Although the custom was said to be dying out ninety years ago, it still lingers on in these strange days of man-made rain. There was at least one such ceremony in England twelve months ago.

A country atmosphere accounts for the longevity of most old customs, but one lives on at a grand old age in a famous London hotel. Between 1240 and 1246 Count Peter of Savoy decreed that as every lady guest woke at his London palace on Christmas morning she should be presented with a white rose. Up to the war the management of the hotel which was ultimately built on the site of the palace continued the tradition by giving roses to their guests. I was glad to learn that it is still honoured to-day, although in a slightly different form. Instead of receiving a single rose, each lady guest is now given a vase of flowers on Christmas morning.

The succulent Boar's Head had pride of place on the table for Christmas Day in the time of knights in armour, jousts and great banquets, and was taken there in a joyous procession. At Oxford the custom is observed even now. On Christmas Day this year the Boar's Head will again be received by the Provost and Fellows of Queen's College, who will observe a ceremony which has been carried out there for more than five hundred years. The ritual is much the same as in the days of the first Elizabeth. Early in the evening those who are able to watch the ceremony gather in the hall, and for half an hour the choir sings carols from the gallery. As the clock strikes seven everyone is asked to stand and the doors of the hall are thrown open. From the front quad and then from the back quad come the strident notes of



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BRINGING IN THE BOAR'S HEAD AT QUEEN'S COLLEGE, OXFORD, ON CHRISTMAS DAY, 1873. "The ritual is much the same now as in the days of the first Elizabeth"



VESSEL CUP, OR WASSAIL BOX, CONTAINING EFFIGIES OF THE VIRGIN MARY AND THE CHRIST CHILD, CARRIED ROUND BY CAROL-SINGERS IN THE NORTH RIDING

a trumpet, telling the Provost and Fellows that dinner awaits them. In procession they move to their places at the high table. As a new procession moves into the hall from the cloister so, for a few moments, the visitor is able to look down the avenue of time. Here is the Boar's Head in triumph again, on a silver dish which is carried by three cooks. Between its front teeth is an orange and around it are trimmings of rosemary and holly and decorated leaves. Before it goes the choir and in front of all walks the cantor, or chief singer. And as they pace forward they sing the traditional carol of Queen's College:

CHORUS
Caput apri defero
Reddens laudes Domino.

SOLO
*The Boar's Head in hand bear I,
Bedecked with bays and rosemary,
And I pray you my masters be merry,
Quot estis in convivio.*

CHORUS
SOLO
*The Boar's Head, as I understand,
Is the bravest dish in all the land,
When thus bedecked with a gay garland,
Let us servare canticum.*

CHORUS
SOLO
*Our Steward hath provided this,
In honour of the King of Bliss,
Which on this day to be served is
In Reginensi Atrio.*

When the Boar's Head finally arrives at the high table the Provost takes the orange from its mouth and gives it to the singer. The members of the choir have first claim on the sprigs of rosemary and the other decorations, and then there is a distribution to some of the onlookers.

While the learned men of Oxford were at dinner, a feast on a lower plane drew men in more humble circumstances to the parlour of the vicarage at Cumnor in Berkshire, about four miles away. Here, after evening service in the church, the tithe-payers were regaled with food

and drink at the parson's expense. In the words of one old record "it was no benefaction on the part of the vicar, but claimed as a right on the part of the parishioners." Each year the vicar had to provide for the feast with "four bushels of malt brewed in ale and small beer, two bushels of wheat made into bread and a half hundredweight of cheese." Next day, at the end of morning prayer, the poor of the parish received the food and liquor which the tithe-payers had left over. Unlike the Boar's Head ceremony, the tithe-payers' feast is no longer held. It is thought, however, that it is probably the basis of a charity which now provides for gifts of bread on New Year's Day, when a considerable number of loaves are distributed among several of the villagers.

An exceptional number of Christmas and New Year charities are retained by the borough of Brighton, where there are annual distributions of no little value. In 1874 a Mr. John Bates left a large sum of money to buy meat, bread and coal for poor people over the age of fifty. Until 1918

the gifts were actually of coal and loaves and joints for the Christmas oven, but since that date cash has been given instead. Last year there were nearly 800 recipients and each received ten shillings. In the same way there are cash gifts to honour the bequest of a lady who wished to provide "an annual Christmas Dinner for aged and infirm respectable fishermen of Brighton." Another lady directed that bread

be given to the poor of the town in December or January. This, too, takes the form of a cash distribution.

Although these three charities are paid out in prosaic fashion at the municipal offices, other distributions are made personally and in a more colourful manner by the Mayor. At the Royal Pavilion, "immediately before Christmas each year," he gives ten shillings each to a large company of people who qualify under one of four bequests. One provides for "the oldest and deserving poor men and women over the age of seventy years" and a second benefits those of sixty and over. On New Year's Day he goes to the Town Hall to distribute the income from White's New Century Fund. This was founded in 1901 to give "deserving poor men and women a half-sovereign each"—a "half-sovereign" which now takes the form of a ten-shilling note.

Proof that gifts in kind are not restricted to food and fuel comes from the borough of Sudbury in Suffolk, where poor inhabitants receive new overcoats under the will of one Nathaniel King, who was a former mayor and owner of the George Inn. The will, dated 1668, directed that the George be sold and the money invested to provide coats for Christmas distribution. Each year they are presented by the mayor at the Town Hall on Christmas Day. Last year, nearly three centuries after the bequest was made, he handed over six of them.

Perhaps it is not surprising that in some of those counties where old Christmas customs and rites are still honoured there are still many old people who firmly adhere to the mediaeval belief that a Christmas Day which falls on a Sunday betokens a year of good fortune. Although you may not be able to obtain a free overcoat and will certainly not see men wrestling on Hornchurch Common for a Boar's Head as once they did, here is country lore which you can definitely put to the test yourself in 1956. It was set down at length in this verse of an ancient song:

*Lordinges, I warne you al beforne,
Yef that day that Cryste was borne,
Falle uppon a Sunday;
That wynter shall be good par fay,
But grete wyndes alofte shalbe,
The somer shall be fayre and drye;
By kynde skylle, wythoutyn lesse,
Throw all londes shalbe peas,
And good tyme all thyngs to don,
But he that stelyth he shalbe fownde sone;
What chylde that day borne be,
A great lord he shalbe.*



THE MAYOR OF BRIGHTON DISTRIBUTING CHRISTMAS CHARITIES IN 1953.
"An exceptional number of Christmas and New Year charities are retained by the borough"

VANISHED LIFE OF THE FIELDS

By HENRY WILLIAMSON

BEFORE the rabbits disappeared from our fields in North Devon the partridges had very nearly gone. The last pair I saw or heard were one-legged birds. My small son ran in with tearful face one morning and said that two brown birds were fluttering in the hedge stub, and one had laid an egg. That was in May, 1954. The hedge was a boundary between my splatt, or parcel of land, planted with small trees, and the cornfield owned by an absentee farmer. By absentee I mean that he lived some miles away, and sent his team to cultivate and drill the field and later to reap the barley, in due season. Rabbits had come from my banks across the splatt and eaten off some of his marginal plants—and he had a lot in his banks, too—and he had asked the man who looked after

against the "Cruelty Inspector into Town." He said that the birds would have been shot anyway by Farmer—, who regularly went forth at night on his tractor, with headlights and a gun, so why was I worrying about it? I had the birds, didn't I? When it was explained that the birds were an asset in themselves, as part of the English landscape, he obviously thought this a silly idea; but being apprehensive lest he be reported (which, of course, he wasn't), he lapsed into silence.

We let the pair go. They had been so scared, so tense, so frantic when they saw even the small boy cautiously approaching. They beat the wires with their wings, and they had a nest somewhere, so after three days the little door was left open.

One morning I disturbed the cock partridge lying with spread wings under a plum tree, on the dry soil I had piled around the small tree. He "exploded" and scrambled. I peered for the nest, knowing from previous years that he, or his forbears (a pair had nested in this field of mine on the hilltop ever since 1928), usually took up a reclining position when all was quiet within a few feet of the hen. He talked to her; I had heard this in previous years. But I could not find the nest. They are not always easy to find. One year, as I sat writing *Salar the Salmon* (1935) in the sun, sitting on an old Windsor chair with pad on knee, I saw to my amazement that a brown mottled back in the grasses was fixed still less than a boot-length from my left leg, which bore the weight of my other leg and writing pad. As quietly as I could I got up and took the chair away on that occasion, and when I went back an hour or so later, the bird had gone, but had covered her eggs with dry old beech leaves, which were still unrotted in the grass. Then I had sat down again about ten yards off, and had glanced quite a lot at the nesting site; but I had not seen her creep away. Much less had I noticed her bringing leaves to cover the eggs before moving, like a tortoise, to join her mate on guard somewhere in the middle of the field.

The magpies did not appear to disturb the partridges throughout the years, because they had enough to eat, feeding on what the buzzards left and the trappers threw out after stoats had gnawed the heads of the trapped. The trappers caught a lot of rats, too; and these the 'pies liked, always taking the eyes first. Stoats and weasels fed on rabbits, also, so our partridges usually brought up their coveys. Very careful they were, as they moved about the field or crossed over a bank—extremely careful, cock going first, slowly, cautiously; then, well below the bank, he would call one silent chick who came over to his low repeated cluckings, almost step for cluck, until it was beside father. Then came the next chick on passage (partridges train their young beautifully, by example), and so on until the dozen or more were over, when the hen followed. And then, spreading out fan-like, cock on one flank, hen on the other, they strolled through the grasses, picking at the dewy tips; for when I saw this, it was about 4 a.m. on a June morning, and I was lying in my hut loft, and watched through the window, while the morning star was shrinking to a molten bead as the dawn came up pink and green over Dunkery Beacon and the blue flowing line of Exmoor.

It is years since I shot partridges, and I was never really happy about it, although I felt, of course, the satisfaction of good shooting on those very rare occasions when the birds seemed to bring themselves down while the gun merely stroked their lines of flight and anticipated where to fling the shot. And last year, as I have said, there was but one pair about on this hill, and I cared for them as for my children. Alas, a stoat must have taken the one-legged hen, for one morning we saw a trail in the wet grass, and some feathers along it. We never found the nest; indeed, we did not care to look for it, after we knew she was dead; we mourned with the cock, who day after day stood on guard in the middle of the field, sometimes calling his hen even at those times when usually she did not slip away to join him feeding. He stayed for five days, and the last two of them he was silent, staring with head raised a little higher than usual, hour after hour.

This year no birds nested in the field. Nor have we heard the sound of the rusty key turning in the stiff wooden lock of the corn barn, anywhere in the thousand or so acres of arable and grass around us. They are gone. The wasps, and in such a hot summer, too, are almost extinct. That may be due to the badgers, who dig out the combs for the grubs, searching more eagerly now that the rabbits are vanished. The trapper told me that once he saw a yellow badger at the base of a bank; and when he got near, he saw it was a mass of wasps, which :



A COVEY OF PARTRIDGES. Drawing by J. C. Harrison in *Shoots and Shooting*, by E. C. Keith

his cattle in another field to till (set) gins to catch the rabbits. The man had tilled his gins at the stub of my quick-hedge, in little runnels through which rabbits sometimes passed and the only pair of partridges on this hilltop crept. Each had been caught—feathers and sinews torn and broken, nearly twisted off in circular flutterings; and the hen had dropped an egg beside her.

We took the birds and caged them in a wire-netting run, with water and seeds and clover plants, hoping that they would recover with splints on their leg bones. But the wounds went septic, despite penicillin and regular washings in warm water. The trapper, by the way, showed no feeling other than that, by trapping in the open, he might run up

The hen went back to her nest in some nettles. We did not dare to look for this; but we thought she was sitting, because we saw the cock on guard in our field. He spent many hours every day, with head up but shoulders low, about fifty yards away. We heard him calling the hen at regular intervals, for feeding. Then, hoppity-hoppity, the two would start side by side across the field, plucking seeds, and always pausing to look around for danger. There were magpies nesting in the conifers at one corner of the field, and I hated them, but was never able to shoot them. I might have destroyed the nest; indeed, one day I had climbed up and seen the young looking at me with such anxious surprise that I climbed down again, telling myself to mind my own business yet once again.

kept at a distance with its shaving-brush hairs. Marks of claws on our fold-unit still show where, in the past winter, starving badgers yelped and dug and tore at wire and creosoted wood to get at the hens within. They succeeded, too, after three diggings under the boards, when at a fourth digging a hen was gripped and torn in two, the larger half being left behind the tilted slat-boards of the floor. They (for we think there were three badgers) took four in all, including that half. The next night they came again, to find the unit laid on wire-net, under which they did not attempt to dig. The point is that the frenzy of the scratches all over the unit showed their hunger.

The titmice have disappeared from our woods and hedges. Magpies have found their nesting-holes and taken mother bird and young together, for the little hen of blue or great titmouse will stay and defend her nestlings. Blackbirds have disappeared, also, while stoats run the banks, in twos and threes, seeking whom they may devour. Six chased our cat, who let out a most melancholy howl and fluffed itself out to twice its size, eyes likewise, after it was safely indoors. As for the buzzards, we used to see a dozen at once in the air, when the thermals were rising into the wispy blue sky and most larger-winged creatures let down their barbules, as it were, and went off on a spree. On such occasions we see all the daws of Baggy and all the rooks of Buckland, Youlston, Hall, Castle Hill and Cornborough fling up in a great high-go-gee to let the winds take them where they will; thousands of feet up into the blue, to soar and sweep and hurtle down invisible crags and precipices, tumble and twirl and rise again, all



PARTRIDGE AND CHICKS, BY EDWARD NEALE, 1877. An illustration in Dresser's *Birds of Europe*

giving "croak, cronk," and "jack-jack." "The joy in life of these creatures is very great," as Richard Jefferies wrote in that famous passage where he finds the skull of a hare in the grasses of Liddington Hill, his boyhood haunt in Wiltshire.

My partridges! My poor one-legged pair, where are you? The quails called last year, when you were here; this year there are no quails, no *Perdix perdix*, no blackbirds, tomtits, or

skylarks; the sky is silent, except for banshee wails of the Hawker Hunters rising from the estuary six miles off as the falcon glides . . . where now the new £11,000,000 power station pours its smoke at the sky, and the Burrows, once the haunt of every wild flower in Britain, with the rare club-headed-rush, and the great sea-stock, are blowing away under the tracks of tanks, flame-throwers and other lumbering wonders of the scientific laboratory.

Where are the buzzards? The chaffinches used to nest in our hedges; the goldspinks (goldfinches), the crimson and gold King Harries of East Anglia, in our apple trees; the little leaf-like wren always haunted our woodsheds and potting shed, for spiders. All are gone. I saw a buzzard, one of the few left, chasing a curlew all over the sky the other afternoon, back and forth, the great clumsy cleaver-shaped wings flapping desperately, while the hawk had not a hope of catching up with the nimbler curlew, who, nevertheless, piped wildly for help or companionship as the ugly thing kept after it. Where will it all end, this trail which began with the dissolution of the rabbits?

Well, someone brought the myxomatosis into the fields; and someone will surely bring the rabbits back. That seems to be the lesson of history. Already it is being said around our hill that rabbits have been seen again near Ilfracombe; by the reservoir, in fact. I don't, personally, want to see them back in my corn; but I would like to hear a song-bird once more.

P.S.—There are no rats in the fields now; only the rooks and daws remain by the stacks, with a few mice.

A NARROW ESCAPE

By JOHN N. EAST

I WAS looking through an old diary the other day and came across an incident which seems to me well worth putting on record, for there cannot be many people who have been charged at close quarters by a red deer stag, and this one so very nearly came off the victor.

It happened in the Otago district of New Zealand where, with a friend, I was stalking in one of those long valleys leading up to that glory of the New Zealand Alps, Mount Cook. The scenery closely resembled the Scottish Highlands, but was on a far grander scale, and was consequently harder work. I was out with one of the two guides, a charming boy named Donald, a true Scot with all the instincts of a born stalker. I had shot a good ten-pointer about mid-day—a big rugged head, with which I was well pleased. It was by far our best head at that date, for we had not been lucky in point of size and so far none of our heads was exceptional. This one, however, was all one could desire and, feeling well pleased, I decided to call it a day. Donald took off the head and, with a nice piece of steak from the backbone in his pocket, we began to make for camp.

Our way soon lay through an extensive thick wood and we had not gone far when we heard a big roar a little way to one side. We decided to investigate, but as the undergrowth was very thick moving without noise was not easy.

"What will I do with this?" said Donald, taking the head from his shoulders.

"Put it down under that tree," I said, indicating a big tree beneath whose spreading branches the clear ground was unmistakable in that overgrown place. Still watching the direction from which the roars were coming, we moved cautiously forward until we saw the stag, lying beside a fallen tree trunk.

Alas! how deceptive a good roar can be. He was an old stag, whose head had very much

"gone back," and was not worth a shot. "Come on, Donald," I said. "Pick up the head and let's be going." Five minutes went by. No Donald. Silence.

"Come on, man," I called. "What's the matter?" "I canna find it," called Donald. "It's not near the tree." With sinking hearts we both began the search, this way, that way, round about, until in the gathering dusk the search had to be abandoned and sadly we decided to make for home. Our good head was gone.

Not twenty paces and I fell full length over something which very quickly told me that I had found the head, for Donald had put it down where he had been standing behind a bush. Rubbing several painful punctures, I emitted a heartfelt "Thank God!" and after slowly gathering myself up we cheerfully resumed our way.

NIGHT FROST

GREAT stars, that with a midnight frost conspire,
Denying darkness, light a crystal fire
On the cold roof-top, set the field ablaze,
Kindle the garden boughs, and so amaze
The eyes of children waking in the night.
They did not know darkness could be so bright,
The black, mysterious hours so clear and white,
And when, at last, the tardy sun is bold
To open out his broad, familiar gold,
Earth is herself again, a homely place,
Russet and green, whose simple morning face
Keeps no remembrance of the marvellous hour
When darkness was in silver-flaming flower.
Only the quiet grass declares it true,
Cherishing, where long shadows still are blue,
The last, round, tell-tale syllables of dew.

MARY JULIAN.

It was by now quite dark and when we finally left the wood it was as dark as pitch. An overcast sky and no glimmer of light. The bed of a river, now partly dry, had to be crossed and, after stumbling over the water-worn stones, we splashed through the stream and were crossing the shingle on the other side when there was a roar quite close to us.

"He is come to drink," said Donald. We turned and waited, trying to see through the darkness.

The sound of feet on the stones. "He is coming nearer. Can ye see him?"

"Not a thing," said I, stooping down to try to get him against where the skyline should have been, and was not.

The sound of feet again. "He's coming closer," whispered Donald.

Picking up a sizeable stone, I flung it at where the noise of feet was coming from, and the resultant thud told me that I had hit him. There was a scramble of feet and stones began flying in all directions.

"Look out!" cried Donald, getting well behind me. "He is going to charge!"

And charge he did. I could not see him, as it was black dark. No time to raise the rifle and nothing to see if I did. I fired from the hip, praying that I was aiming in the right direction. By all the gods of luck the bullet took him in the chest, raking him through, and as he fell one of his antlers hit my boot.

"That was a near one. He smelt the head I was carrying," said Donald, as we bent down to look at him by the light of matches. He was a young six-pointer, and his points were very sharp. They would have made a nasty hole with that weight and vigour behind them, even through one's clothes, while in the face . . . !

"We'll come this way to-morrow," said Donald, "and get a bit of steak. He'll eat tender."

HOGMANAY IN A FISHING VILLAGE

By NAOMI MITCHISON

OUR village has no licence. You would think that would spoil New Year for them. Not at all! For a long while back we have been making our preparations. The respectable folk of Carradale have been coming back from expeditions to Campbeltown, Tarbert or even farther afield, with a bottle of the hard stuff in a pocket where it won't be showing. Cakes have been baked, too, and such things as biscuits and lemonade laid in, for the weaker brethren.

Nowadays we keep Christmas in a way which would have shocked our righteous forefathers. There are parties in the Village Hall for the children, with high Christmas trees out of the Forestry Commission plantations. The forester always gives me a little one, to stick in my old German Christmas tree stand that can be wound up and plays tinkly tunes. But we grown-ups are thinking a week ahead to Hogmanay.

The awkward thing is when Hogmanay, the eve of New Year, falls on a Saturday—as it does this year—in which case any dancing we do after midnight is strictly unofficial and first-footing is much cut down, or on a Sunday, which takes the heart out of things. Yet, if it comes in the middle of a week the fishermen may be away; even for Hogmanay you can't afford, in these days, to miss a good fishing.

I concentrate on food and the accordion player. You may think you have a good player all set to come, but suddenly there is a wedding in the family and off he has to go to it. I wouldn't choose New Year for a wedding, myself, but it's a popular time with some. Then the indignant grandchildren have to be cleared out of the library, the table tennis tables folded up and as many breakable things as possible put away. The room looks nice with the green garlands slung about it, all the mixed evergreen of a Highland garden, from the shining silver of the under-side of some of the abies to the gold-green of the golden cypress, the dark shine of escallonia and the blue of the Atlantic cedar. We don't have much holly, but there are bright berries of pernettya, crimson and pink. I pick fat buds of the rhododendron Christmas Cheer before Christmas, and expect it to be out for

the New Year. In a mild year there may still be roses, and last year the tassels of the lobster claw were beginning to dangle scarlet, though the frosts a fortnight later finished them and, alas, the whole plant, which was well spread over a south wall.

The village shops won't open for several days, depending really on the inclinations of the baker, so I have to get in lots of bread. So does everyone else, and there isn't always enough to go round. I try to get everyone to have an early supper, but if any of the men have gone out shooting and then had a big tea they sometimes refuse to be driven! Most of us don't change till after supper because of the washing up, but those who have been cutting sandwiches ought to be allowed off that. Then we get the table set with jellies, trifle, cakes, sandwiches and fruit salad. There are piles of saucers but never enough spoons. However, one trusts, as the evening goes on, that one's guests will stop being fussy about little things like clean glasses and spoons.

I make huge jugs of orangeade: anything more important is my



1.—THE HOUSE AT CARRADALE, IN ARGYLLSHIRE, WHERE THE HOGMANAY CELEBRATIONS DESCRIBED IN THE ACCOMPANYING ARTICLE ARE HELD AND WHERE THE AUTHOR LIVES



2.—THE AUTHOR DISCUSSING THE COMING HOGMANAY WITH FISHERMEN IN CARRADALE HARBOUR

husband's worry! But quite a number of the younger men will prefer my tipple or at most a glass of beer.

If I'm lucky I get changed into a long dress before the guests begin to come. The earlier ones wait in the passage room—I can hear them giggling—until there are enough of them to make a break-through. But the accordionist and Willie, who always plays the piano, are there already and probably demonstrating the accordion to the grandchildren. Susan has reluctantly been got out of her slacks and into a party frock. Sally, on the other hand, can't wait to get dressed up. Graeme is unbelievably clean and tidy. The rest are in bed and asleep. But next year Neil may decide to stay up.

The dancing begins rather stickily. Everyone waits for everyone else. It isn't until after

more come, especially later on. Towards midnight old feuds are being made up, eternal friendships are being sworn, sentiment flows like champagne. People bring their own bottles, some with the hard stuff, others with a pretty revolting mixture of port and whisky, which is supposed to be almost temperance. I am expert at accepting drinks from my supporters—for, after all, a county councillor has a reputation to keep up—but not actually drinking them.

Now, with any luck, we have a set of quadrilles, danced mostly by the older people. We remind one another of the figures: "scoosh" or "soldiers." And then we begin to look at our watches, which never say the same thing. A collective compromise is rapidly reached and we all get into a ragged circle and sing that singularly gloomy song, *A Guid New Year to Yin and Aa'*, of which few of us know more than the first two

First-footing goes on from midnight until a few days later. I pay my next morning visits with an assortment of the younger grandchildren, guaranteed to eat cake and drink ginger ale and fizzy orange. Nobody works; I do the afternoon milking and feed the hens. One year I had an Egyptian friend staying who, as a "dark stranger," was very popular. Occasionally the old gifts are brought, especially the lump of coal for warmth in the heart and the house. But mostly one is welcomed in with "What will you take for your New Year?"

By the end of the short afternoon I am driving very slowly and carefully, coming back from the harbour or up the Glen. It is the mixture of whisky, sherry, gingerade and rich cake—and, of course, kisses. The best thing to work this off is a brisk game of kickeps, our family version of continuous hide-and-seek in the dark,



3.—THE PIER AT CARRADALE, WITH THE MOUNTAINS OF ARRAN IN THE DISTANCE

the first eightsome that things begin to go with a swing. We dance almost nothing but old-fashioned dances, the pattern waltzes, *Pride of Erin* and *St. Bernard* and *Hesitation*, the two-steps and barn dances, *Gay Gordons* and *Dashing White Sergeant*. Sometimes we get enough tolerably good dancers for *Duke of Perth* or *Scottish Reform*, but usually we don't rise beyond *Petronella* and *Strip the Willow*. Quite a lot of the girls know the more interesting dances, but the boys won't bother to learn.

A good many of the dancers have a hard day's work at the back of them; they've been pulling turnips, putting out hay, mending nets—some of them were out at the herring the previous night and have barely had a snatch of sleep—or clearing and burning on the Forestry Commission ground. The women have been baking or cleaning up the house ready for the first-footers. But you wouldn't guess it from the way they go at the dancing once it gets going. They go at the food, too, clearing off the full plates. There are a few children among them, for it's hard if the mother always has to stay at home. But they are wearing their party manners. Some people like a cup of tea and know their way to the kitchen, and there's usually a party of washers-up.

In the party there is always a hard core of people I have definitely asked, but a great many

lines. Then my husband makes a very small speech; it doesn't matter if it is the same as last year. And then everyone kisses everyone else.

My own theory is that, because everybody has the Cold, it is essential to have a disinfectant; presumably alcohol is one of the best. At any rate the Cold doesn't seem to spread any further after New Year. Young and old wolves prowl rapidly; there is an occasional slap, but for the most part it's simpler just to carry on.

From midnight on, the party comes and goes, or rather it goes and comes. One says good-bye to a guest, gives him firmly to his wife to take home, but look, there he is back again by the other door! The real after-midnight first-footers come in and are duly given their glass and their bit of cake. At last, in the small hours, we think that everyone has probably gone and adjourn to the kitchen for bacon and eggs. It was while we were at this one New Year that we heard a very peculiar noise; this turned out to be the bottled gas turned full on, while round the cylinder one of our guests was curled up and snoring. We pulled him up, woke him and explained that his friends were looking for him. He wavered away into the night. Later, it appeared that he had mistaken the screw of the gas cylinder for the handle of the front door, and merely turned it.

with much running violently up and down stairs, jumping over sofas and suchlike.

The next day is much the same, but people's faces are redder and their walk heavier. And then—well, that depends on the fishing. If there are plenty of herring and the boats have had good share-outs for a few weeks back, then they can afford an extra day's holiday in honour of Hogmanay. But it doesn't look like that this year. The bottles will soon be empty, the cake soon finished. The fishermen must go back to work, and the shop must open to let them take their bread and meat for the week on board. And when the fishermen are away, then the holiday must stop.

But for quite a while afterwards I find myself saying, "Happy New Year" to anyone I meet on the road who happens not to have come our way at Hogmanay or Ne'erday. It comes naturally and one goes on saying it in places like London if by any chance one has to hurry down there early in January. It may seem silly there, but to us it does mean something very real: it means that there has been an actual break in time, in the day-to-day turnover; one has come round a corner and the new stretch ahead may be in some way different, genuinely happy, a New Year worth speaking about.

Illustrations: 1 and 2, Picture Post Library.

PLAS NEWYDD, ANGLESEY—II

THE SEAT OF THE
MARQUESS OF ANGLESEY

By CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY

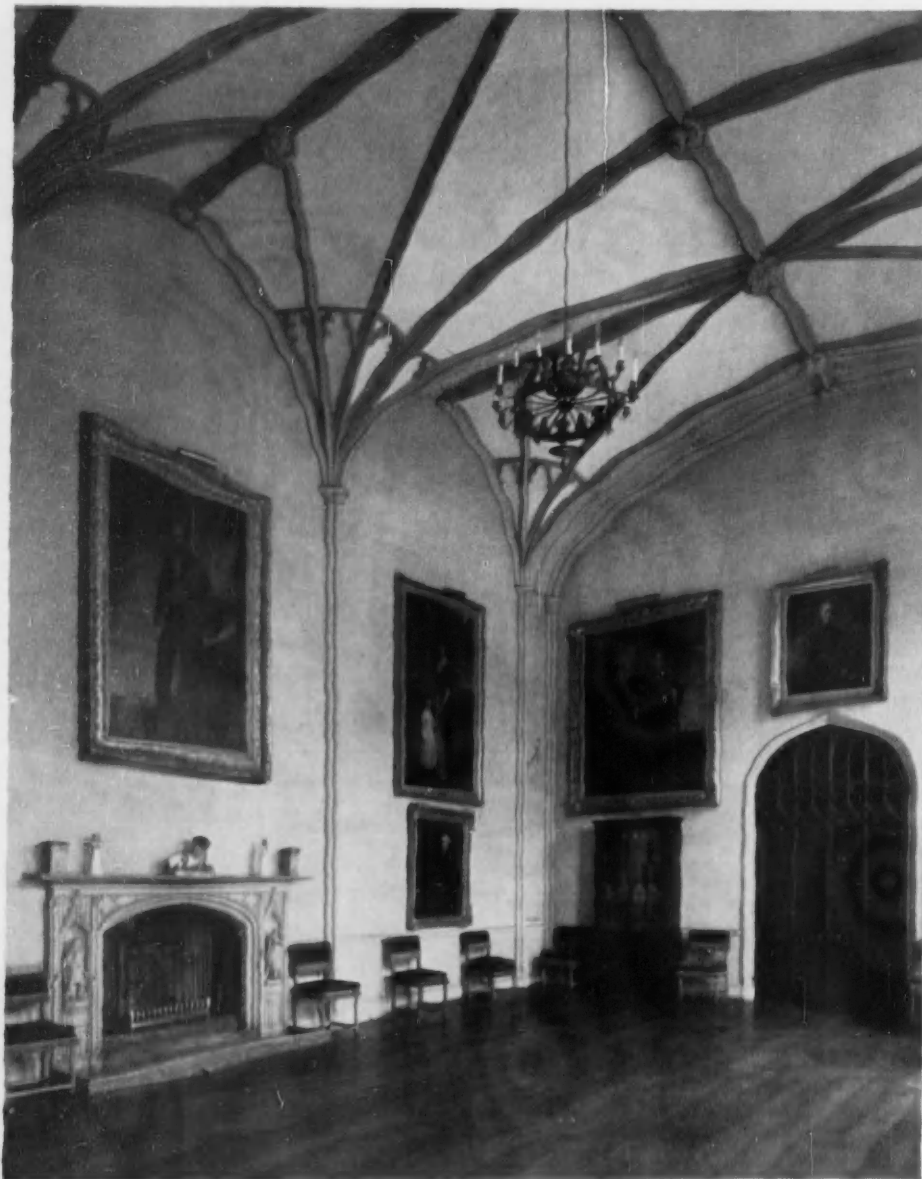
James Wyatt designed most of the rooms c. 1795 for the Earl of Uxbridge, but the Gothic hall was completed by Joseph Potter c. 1811-26 for his son, the 1st Marquess of Anglesey.

It was concluded in the previous article that, although James Wyatt signed only the designs for the interior dated 1795, he can be regarded as having been mainly responsible for the whole transformation of Plas Newydd. This may have been begun in 1783, but was not finished till 1826, long after his death, by his pupil Joseph Potter. A water-colour by Moses Griffiths, dated 1776, showed that the greater part of the irregular old house was still standing then, but that the south-east corner of the house appeared to have been already reconstructed in the Gothick style. Some features of this part, notably the octagonal tower in the south-east corner (Fig. 1), were incorporated in the reconstruction, which a later drawing by Griffiths shows complete in 1803.

The earlier alterations may have been done for Sir Nicholas Bayly, who died in 1782,



1.—THE SOUTH END, LOOKING UP THE MENAI STRAIT



2.—THE HALL, IN THE MIDDLE OF THE WEST FRONT. Completed for the 1st Marquess, the Field-Marshal, by Joseph Potter, c. 1825

or possibly his father. But the main rebuilding was due to his son, who had already inherited, in right of his mother, the barony of Paget with the Beaudesert estate in Staffordshire, and for whom the Earldom of Uxbridge was afterwards revived. If the Earl began turning his attention to Plas Newydd in 1783, as the surviving plans bearing this date suggest, the principal rooms were ready for decoration only in 1795, when Wyatt supplied careful drawings. The exterior is shown to have been completed in 1803, including the west front, which contains the lofty Gothic hall. However, the earliest surviving plan in which the hall appears in its present form was made in 1811 and signed by Joseph Potter, who made designs for its internal completion only in 1823.

Although there is at present no documentary evidence for James Wyatt being at Plas Newydd before 1795, it is by no means improbable. On the other hand, the connections of the Wyatt family with North Wales make it possible that another of the family preceded him. His brother Samuel had built Baron Hill, outside Beaumaris, for Lord Bulkeley (the Baylys' great rival in Anglesey) in 1776; and (brought in by a third brother, Benjamin) was later to Georgianise the ancient house of Penrhyn near Bangor. It is conceivable, therefore, that Samuel may have begun the remodelling of Plas Newydd for Lord Uxbridge, or even for his father, but that it was left unfinished till about 1795. This could account both for James Wyatt's designs being for interiors only, and for the readiness with which they fitted into a plan made or existing a decade earlier.

However, though the finished drawings for the rooms alone bear James's signature, it is more likely that he had been responsible throughout. He was notoriously unbusiness-like in his practice, and the plans without inscribed dates or signatures could have been made on the spot either by him or an assistant, such as Joseph Potter. But although the latter appended his name in 1811, during Wyatt's lifetime, to the plan which comprises the new hall, we must surely regard at least the conception of the hall as Wyatt's, since Griffiths shows us that it was already built

in 1803. And, indeed, although it is in such contrast to the Classical rooms which Wyatt is known to have designed, its Gothic is wholly typical of him. It must, I think, be assumed that Potter was working on, and perhaps finishing, a lost original scheme for it by his master.

In that case, as Griffiths's 1803 drawings confirm, the twin entrances adjoining either end of the hall, which were so curious a feature of the west front, must have been integral to that scheme, although one gives into the Gothic vestibule (Fig. 3) and the other gave into the Classical staircase (Fig. 4), for which Wyatt's design exists. In connection with the staircase Wyatt's first- and second-floor landings form the characteristic composition seen in Fig. 5.

In the east front the bowed centre is occupied by the drawing-room. Wyatt's design for the window side of this—looking out over the Menai Strait—is reproduced in Fig. 8. The room's disposition, and specifically the frieze, corresponds to the drawing, but the pilasters were omitted (Fig. 7). The other east and south rooms also follow closely but not always exactly the elegantly light designs for them. The library in the south-west angle (Fig. 17), now hung with a *toile de Jouy*, preserves



3.—THE ENTRANCE VESTIBULE, c. 1825, SOUTH OF THE HALL

Wyatt's original arrangement, shown in the 1811 plan, having in either end fitted bookshelves with glazed doors. One bay of these, in the west end and similarly glazed, is shown in the plan as giving into a diminutive water-closet occupying little more than the depth of the adjoining shelves, which is still there.

If, as appears the case, the Gothic hall and vestibule were left unfinished internally by Lord Uxbridge, the reasons can only be surmised. But some significance can perhaps be deduced from Potter having come from Lichfield in 1811 to make a plan of the house. In the last years of his life Lord Uxbridge may have interested himself again in his house. Or Potter may have been sent for by his son.

When one examines the career of General Lord Paget, the future Marquess, it transpires that, following his brilliant conduct in command of the cavalry during the Corunna campaign, he was unemployed between 1809 and the opening of the Waterloo campaign. After 1815 he took up residence at Beaudesert, where his extensive but uncompleted alterations to that great Elizabethan house (demolished twenty years ago) showed that his taste in architecture was for the Gothic. Indeed he seems to have employed Potter there also. The survey-plan made of Plas Newydd by Potter in 1811 might perhaps be accounted for by the Earl having placed this house at his son's



4.—JAMES WYATT'S STAIRCASE, c. 1795. NORTH OF THE HALL



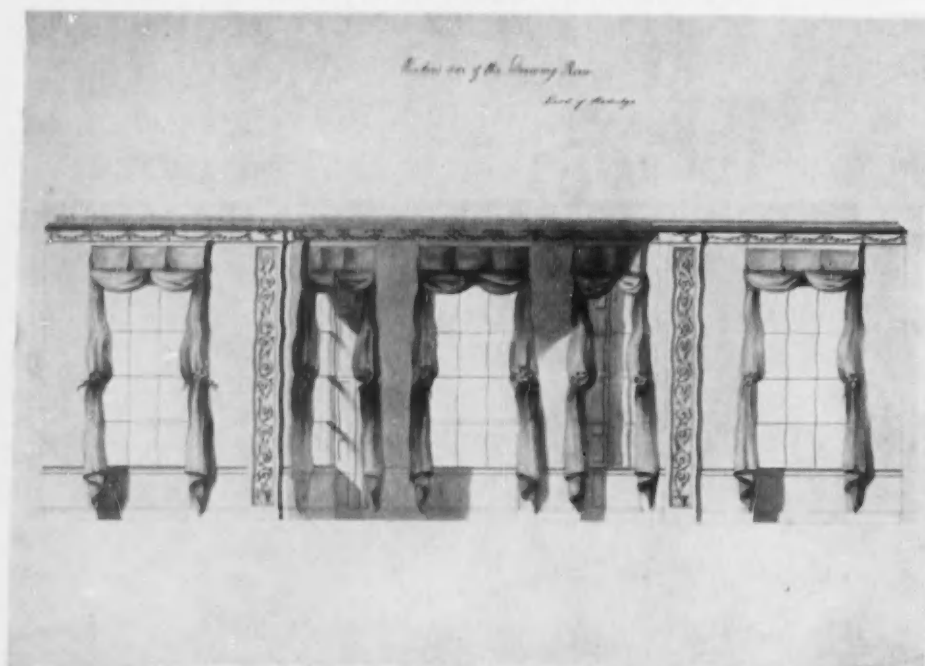
5.—THE FIRST- AND SECOND-FLOOR LANDINGS



6.—THE BATTLE OF RAMILLIES (?), ASCRIBED TO LAGUERRE



7.—THE DRAWING-ROOM IN THE EAST FRONT



8.—A DESIGN BY WYATT FOR THE DRAWING-ROOM, 1795

disposal during his period of unemployment and by the latter having then begun to consider its completion. The private life of Lord Paget had also undergone a sudden change in the previous year, when he had been divorced by his wife, Lady Caroline Villiers, for having eloped with the wife of Henry Wellesley. But the project for finishing off Plas Newydd was not pursued at that time. Lord Uxbridge died, his son succeeded to Beaudesert, and in 1815 returned spectacularly to active service. It was not until 1823 that, having meanwhile done much to Beaudesert, he returned to Plas Newydd, and during the next three years he received Potter's designs for finishing the hall and decorating the new chapel.

The hall has traceried windows and slender imitations of fan vaulting in plaster (Fig.



9.—LORD PAGET OF BEAUDESERT (d. 1568). School of Holbein

2), recalling Wyatt's treatment of Lichfield Cathedral, where Potter had been his assistant. The chimney-piece, with "sculpture" insets, is of the kind derived from ornate mediæval tombs and chantries, which Salvin was still repeating a few years later at Mamhead. The pictures in the hall include full-length portraits of the Field-Marshal by Hoppner and Lawrence, the former's of the second Lady Anglesey, and a dramatic representation by Dighton of the Battle of Vittoria.

Since the demolition of Beaudesert, much of the contents of that great house are now at Plas Newydd. In the entrance vestibule are grouped the earlier family portraits, outstanding among them that of its founder, the Tudor statesman (Fig. 9). On Wyatt's staircase there are others, and also a remarkable series of eight early-18th-century battle-pieces, contained in Kent-period frames (Fig. 6). Neither their subject nor provenance is recorded, nor their painter, but they at once recalled to me the murals at Marlborough House of the Battle of Ramillies by Laguerre. I think this is substantiated by the handling, uniforms, and particularly the rather conventionalised horses, which correspond closely; and the grouping of the principal figures in at least one of these pictures seems identical in the murals. The latter, however, appear to be adaptations selected from episodes shown in these paintings. In the small pictures the



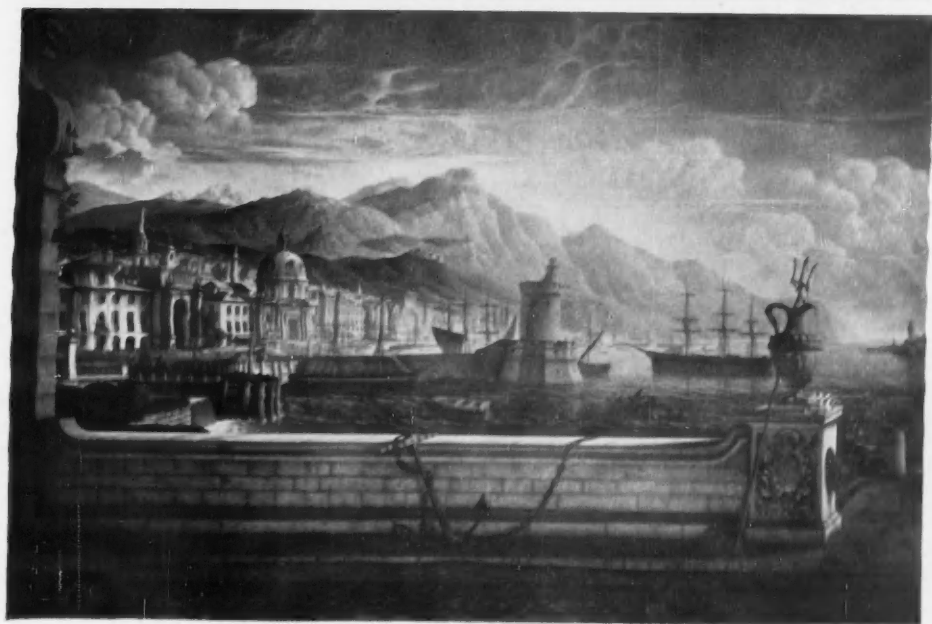
(Above left) 10.—THE LONG DINING-ROOM,
DECORATED BY REX WHISTLER,
LOOKING NORTH

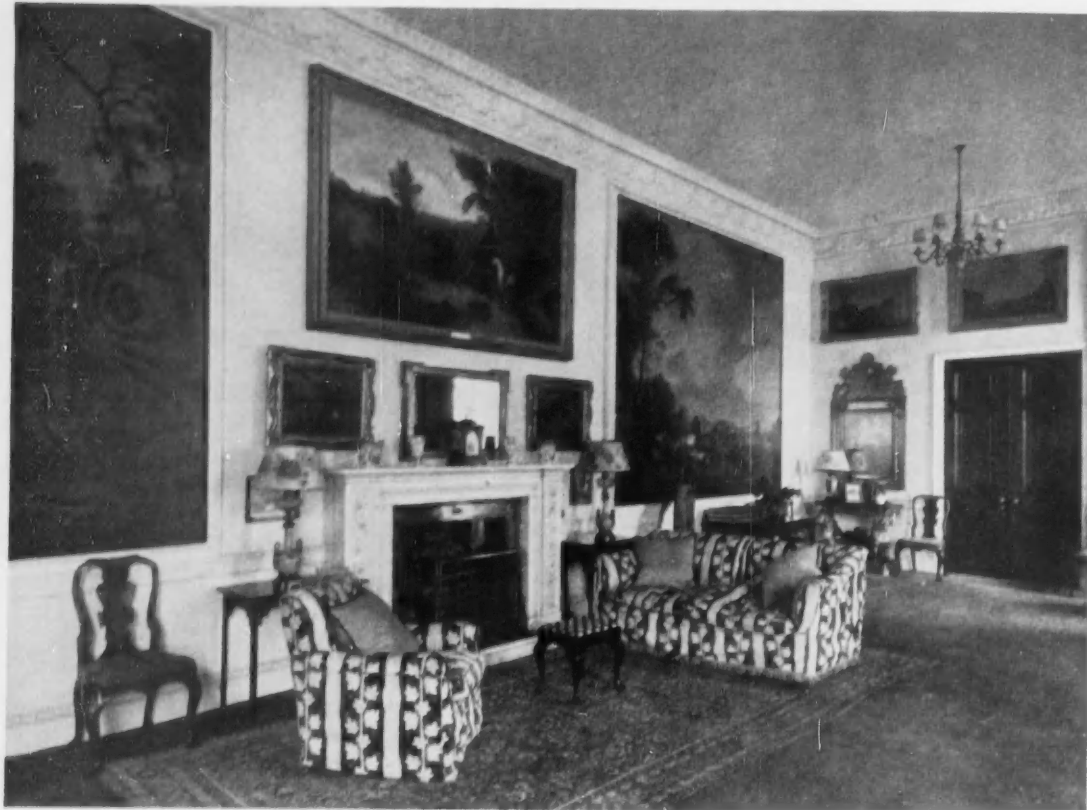


(Left) 11.—THE CENTRE AND (below
left) 12.—THE SOUTH END OF THE
INNER WALL

(Above) 13.—DETAIL OF THE SOUTH
SECTION

(Below) 14.—SELF PORTRAIT BY REX
WHISTLER ON THE SOUTH RETURN
WALL





15.—THE WEST SIDE OF THE DRAWING-ROOM

principal figures are very capably portrayed, and the central one, wearing the sash and star of the Garter, is recognisably Marlborough. Little work survives by Laguerre on this small scale for comparison, but the evidence points to these pictures being the studies from which the murals were painted. A possible channel for their presence here is Brigadier Thomas Paget, whose heiress married Sir Nicholas Bayly, of Plas Newydd. He could have been present at the battle, have subsequently come by the paintings and had them framed about 1735.

Another series unrelated to the history of the house consists of the landscapes by Ommeganck decorating the drawing-room (Fig. 15). Above the chimney-piece there is

a charming picture by R. B. Davis of the young Queen Victoria riding at Windsor with her suite, which included the 2nd Marquess of Anglesey and Lord Alfred Paget. Below stairs a large room has been fitted up to display the presentation gold plate, uniforms and other historic mementoes of the first Marquess, including the shako of the 7th Hussars which he wore at Waterloo, and the jointed artificial leg that he had to wear subsequently.

Potter's drawings for the chapel are also in the Gothic style. Occupying part of the first and second storeys in the north wing, the chapel had three large windows to the east (shown by Griffiths in 1803), and a painted altarpiece of the Ascension; but about 1900

it was converted into a private theatre by the 5th Marquess. In 1905 he was succeeded by his cousin, the present Marquess's father, who converted the space to bedrooms, and, on the floor below it, formed a large dining-room, 47 ft. long. The walls of this were decorated between 1936 and 1940 by Rex Whistler (Fig. 10). The theme of these delightful paintings, the artist's most considerable work, is an enchanted reflection of the view from the windows, in which the Strait and Snowdon are transformed into a Georgian landscape fantasy, exquisite in pictorial imagination. The room, described in detail in *COUNTRY LIFE* of February 22, 1946, is no longer used as a dining-room, following the subdivision and replanning of the house effected in 1947, to which reference was made last week, but together with the other rooms can be inspected by appointment.

These articles have been so much taken up with trying to unravel the peculiarly complicated history of Plas

Newydd's building that too little, perhaps, has been said of its very successful partition between Lord and Lady Anglesey and the H.M.S. Conway Training School. The school has the use of the stables, most of the north wing and joint use of the landing-stage and harbour. In the private part of the house the billiard-room (in the northern end of the east front) has been converted into the kitchen adjoining the present dining-room. Neither establishment appears to impinge upon the other in any way, and each derives many advantages from the arrangement. Not the least of these is the full occupation and preserving of the house in a setting which, as these photographs have suggested, is surely one of the most beautiful in Great Britain.



16.—THE PRESENT DINING-ROOM. (Right) 17.—WYATT'S LIBRARY IN THE SOUTH-WEST ANGLE

THE ROYAL TORTOISE OF TONGA

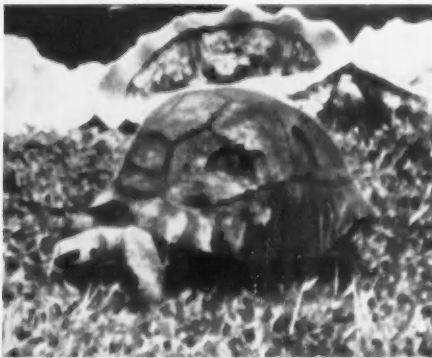
By AUDREY NOEL HUME

TO be the world's oldest known living creature must surely be a great honour for any animal, but it is only one of several honours borne by Tu'imalila, the royal tortoise of Tonga and the pet of Queen Salote.

Tonga was discovered by Europeans in 1616 when Jacob Lemaire and William Cornelius Schouten reached its shores but managed only to arouse the hostility of the native inhabitants. However, when in 1773 Captain James Cook called there in the hope of replenishing his supplies, he was greeted with great friendliness. The reigning monarch, King Tubuo, entertained his guests on a large scale while the ships were loaded with casks of fresh water and huge quantities of fresh meat and fruit. In return the English captain gave his host a number of interesting and valuable presents, among which was a large tortoise, which, it would seem, had been captured in the Galapagos or Tortoise Islands which lie off the west coast of Ecuador. While tradition asserts that this reptile was being carried home as a present for King George III there may be a less patriotic explanation for its presence in the ship. Fresh meat was not easily obtainable in ocean-going ships, and the customary diet of fish and salted meats proved both monotonous and injurious to health. It did not take sailors long to learn that the giant land tortoises to be found on the islands of the Indian Ocean and on the Galapagos Islands would live for many



H.M. THE QUEEN, QUEEN SALOTE OF TONGA AND H.R.H. THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH LOOKING AT TU'IMALILA DURING THE ROYAL TOUR OF 1953-4



TU'IMALILA, A GALAPAGOS TORTOISE PRESENTED TO THE KING OF TONGA BY CAPTAIN COOK IN 1773, AND NOW ABOUT TWO CENTURIES OLD. The tortoise has the rank of a nobleman of Tonga and is a pet of Queen Salote

months in the holds of their ships and, when slaughtered, yielded up to 100 pounds of good fresh meat. Perhaps it is uncharitable to Captain Cook to suggest that his gift was merely a left-over from the ship's food supply, but this possibility cannot be overlooked.

Whatever the origin of the gift King Tubuo was delighted with his tortoise and immediately created him Tui or chieftain of the tribe called Malila, and he was entitled to all the privileges and rights of a noble. Every Tongan ruler since that time has confirmed the grant and the tortoise has always lived within the confines of the royal palace.

There can be no doubt about Tu'imalila's claim to be the world's oldest known living creature. His recorded stay in Tonga has lasted 182 years and, allowing for the fact that he was at least half grown when taken there, his actual age must be in the region of 200 years. A giant tortoise lived in Mauritius from 1766 to 1918, a total of 142 years, while a Mediterranean spur-thighed tortoise (the species commonly kept as pets in this country) survived at Lambeth Palace from 1633 to 1753; both these tortoises died through accidents. Tu'imalila, living in a

perfect climate for his kind, will, it is to be hoped, hold his record of longevity for many years to come.

Tu'imalila's life has been pleasant, but not uneventful. He has managed to survive two serious forest fires and his shell bears a number of bad cracks caused when he was run over by a cart. On yet another occasion this unfortunate tortoise was badly kicked by a horse, but, although he has lost the sight of one eye, Tu'imalila remains well and active.

In December, 1953, another honour was bestowed upon this remarkable tortoise when he was introduced to the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh when they visited Queen Salote during their world tour. It is not known whether Tu'imalila took his rightful place at the great banquet held on that occasion, but he doubtless tried his favourite pastime of attempting to climb into the huge open fires on which the turtles and sucking pigs are always roasted for a Tongan feast. On her return to this country the Queen would have been reminded of her meeting with the double centenarian, for his likeness adorned one of the banners which hung in the Mall on that day.

PASSING THE BABY By W. J. WESTON

THE game of handing over the baby calls for a deal of skill; in time, though, officials become adepts at it. We all played the game a little in the Army when we shuffled out of a tiresome job by "Passed to you for necessary action, please." We all knew the phrase; it was a relieving friend when, conscience permitting, we could write it, a burdening enemy when we could not but buckle to the task imposed. A Civil Service official seems to play the game as a part of his routine. You seek his help. After preliminary flourishes he points out that another, not he, is the officer responsible.

Well, adjoining a correspondent's garden is a field, at present the undisturbed abode of thistles and dandelions and every other noxious weed that a gardener with unremitting toil bends his back to eradicate. Summer suns ripen the weeds apace, and he sees them profuse in their propagation of seeds. Hovering in the breeze, gently floating to find lodging in the trim flower beds, this thistledown and these dandelion puffs are a pretty sight. But not to the gardener, and he writes to the Agricultural Executive Committee officer about it. For someone tells him that the Committee has power to control weeds.

Answer comes at length: "Will you please furnish the name and address of the owner or occupier of the land on which the weeds are growing as this information is necessary before

any action can be taken. An inspection of the land will then have to be made to ensure that scheduled weeds are present." "Scheduled weeds?" says the gardener. "Whatever are these weeds the achievement of which qualifies land for the tender care of the Minister?" His farmer friend, questioned, is vague about it: "Charlock very like," he says, "or maybe thistles and nettles." Surely also dandelions and buttercups, thinks the gardener, those foes against which in his own half-acre he wars unceasingly. However, his curiosity awakened, he keeps on his quest; and, undaunted by reference and cross-reference, he finds the weeds at last snugly nestling, not as he might have expected in the Agriculture Act but in the queerly-named Corn Production Acts (Repeal) Act, 1921. And he learns that, so far as the Ministry of Agriculture is concerned, there are but three injurious weeds, thistle and dock and ragwort, that plant of ragged leaves and of deep root greedy of food.

Though his own problem is still without solution, he has learnt a little by his self-imposed search; and a subsequent letter, after the invading seeds had done their damage, carries on his lesson. He is told, but more expansively and not in these words, that he has been barking up the wrong tree. In the first place, the C.A.E.C. can take action only when the scheduled weeds are a menace to crops on agricultural

land, and a private garden is not this. In the second place, the complaint should have been addressed to the local planning officer. He it is that, by Section 33 of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, has been empowered to protect the amenities of his area.

Parliament, aspiring to foster and preserve such beauty as a town area may possess equally with a country area, did, indeed, give that power. When the amenity of his area is seriously injured by the deplorable condition of any garden or other piece of land, the local planning officer can serve on the owner or occupier a notice requiring him to make the condition of the land more in keeping with its surroundings; and, in the event of failure to do what the notice directs, the planning officer himself—at the cost of owner or occupier—may do what he decides is called for. Nor is he obliged to await the growth of "scheduled weeds" or the sight of anything else obnoxious before he acts. It is enough that this bit of land is an ugly contrast to the other land in the area. Has the power, in fact, been used effectively, or does it provide us with another instance of where an aspiration of Parliament remains a wish for the moon? In particular, does anyone know of an instance where the power has been invoked in order to guard a private garden against the potential invasion of the seeds that the gardener dreads?

UNUSUAL ROCK PLANTS

By A. G. L. HELLYER

SOME plants, like some people, are burdened with names so unfortunate that one wonders how they struggle through life with them. *Rhodohypoxis baueri* is one of them, yet it is a gem if ever there was one; with us, however, it rather misses the sun and warmth of its native South Africa, but it is hardy, nevertheless, provided it can be protected from excessive winter wet. Once suited it will produce ever-widening tufts of narrow leaves above which the oddly-shaped flowers are carried in loose sprays. In the most familiar form these flowers are a real carmine, hard but effective, but there are less lurid variations on this colour theme as well as an excellent white. This is one of those plants which add greatly to the fun of a garden by the notice they attract and the questions they produce.

The phyteumas are in the same category, none more so than *P. comosum* with its extraordinary flowers, each looking as if made of blown glass drawn out thinly at the tip. They are tightly clustered like a clove of tiny shallots and are shaded from pale to deep purple. This is a plant to be grown in well drained soils and sunny places or, perhaps better still, in a pan of gritty soil in the alpine frame.

The drabas are not in the least strange in appearance but they elicit plenty of comment just the same because so few gardeners seem to know them. Perhaps the name is unattractive, but do not imagine that there is anything drab about the drabas. On the contrary, they are nearly all extremely cheerful little plants which, in their season, smother themselves beneath a myriad of tiny yellow or white flowers. There are scores of them in the wild, though few are to be found in nursery catalogues. *D. polytricha*, which is yellow-flowered and cushion-forming, can be purchased without difficulty, and so can the tufted *D. aizoides* and the pure white *D. dedeana*. All are worth having, but of the trio only *D. aizoides* can be left to look after itself. The others must be fussed over a little, given the sharpest possible drainage and protected from the aggression of more rampant plants.

There is nothing in the least weak about the pasque flowers, nor in general can they be called uncommon, even though it is a rare and thrilling sight to come upon a colony growing wild in the Chilterns or some other chalky spot. But there are varieties of *Pulsatilla vulgaris* which, because of their colouring, are decidedly uncommon—none more so than the splendid plum red form known as Letchworth. Like all its kind, it is perfectly easy to grow in limy soil and an open, sunny position.



THLASPI ROTUNDIFOLIUM, WHICH HAS ABUNDANT, MAUVE-PINK FRAGRANT FLOWERS AND GREY-GREEN LEAVES. It thrives in a stony soil

The name that I have used for the pasque flowers may be unfamiliar, for though botanically correct it seldom appears in catalogues. These usually list them as varieties of *Anemone pulsatilla* and much the same is also true of the alpine anemone, which is usually called *Anemone alpina*, though its true name is *Pulsatilla alpina*. In the Alps it is very common in the upper meadows, but it is not really an easy plant to grow well in lowland gardens and for that reason has never been, and probably never will be, common in cultivation. However, it can be purchased without difficulty and should be planted in full sun, and a deep, rich gritty soil.

All the lewisias are attractive and all are little known except by experts, perhaps because even with the best cultivation they tend to be impermanent. Fortunately they grow readily from seed and it is not a difficult matter to have successive batches of seedlings growing on to take the place of those that fall by the way. But do not be in too great a hurry to root up and discard

L. rediviva, which has a disconcerting habit of withering away completely and then as suddenly reviving to produce its large pink flowers. It is an interesting plant, but not the loveliest of its family, a title I should reserve for *L. howellii*. This is a variable species ranging in colour from deep apricot to yellow and rose. The flowers are carried more gracefully than those of *L. rediviva* on well branched eight-inch stems. There are also numerous first-class hybrids.

There are so many fine and rare primulas that it is difficult to know where to begin. But certainly no one in search of the uncommon should miss *P. viallii*, which to the uninitiated does not look like a primrose at all. Its flowers are crowded in dense, narrow spikes, in shape not unlike those of a grape hyacinth and in colour shading from purplish blue to crimson. It is a plant of positively startling originality, but unfortunately it is by no means easy to keep. That, no doubt, is why so few nurseries are able to offer it. Good winter drainage must somehow



LEWISIA REDIVIVA. It has the curious habit of apparently dying and then suddenly reviving and bursting into bloom. (Right) A WHITE-FLOWERED FORM OF *RHODOHYPOXIS BAUERII*



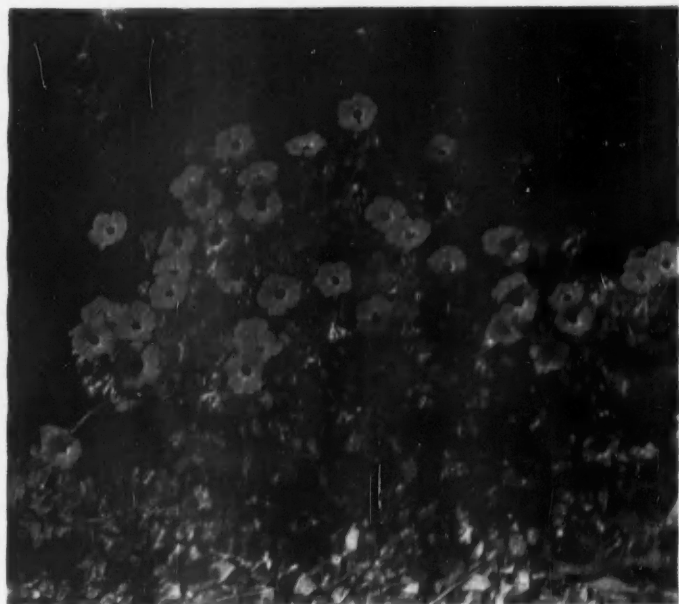
CELMISIA SPECTABILIS, A NEW ZEALAND DAISY



TROLLIUS ACAULIS, A DWARF GLOBE FLOWER



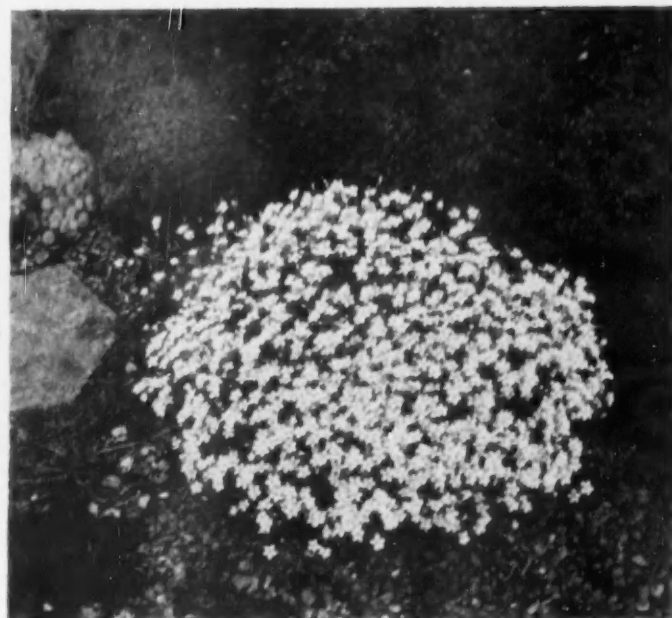
CALCEOLARIA DARWINII, WITH POUCH-LIKE FLOWERS



GERANIUM SUBCAULESCENS, A FINE ALPINE SPECIES



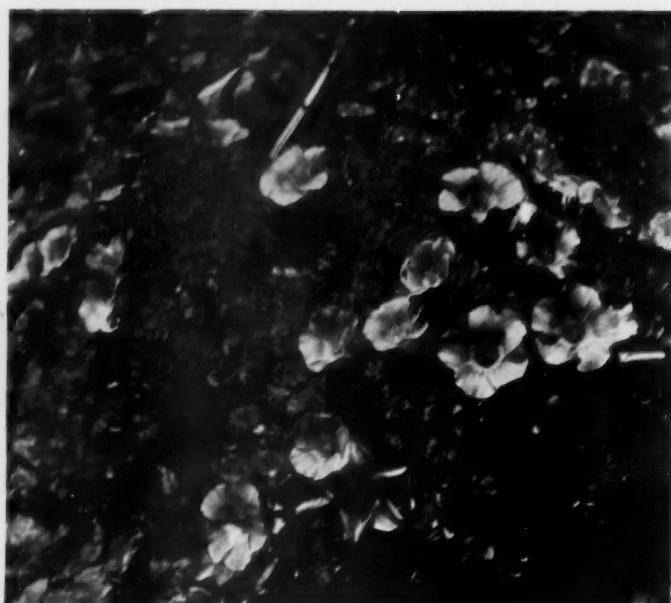
MYOSOTIS RUPICOLA, AN ALPINE FORGET-ME-NOT



THE CUSHION-FORMING *MINUARTIA CAUCASICA*



ARNEBIA ECHINOIDES, THE PROPHET-FLOWER



OXALIS ENNEAPHYLLA, AN EXOTIC WOOD SORREL



ADONIS BREVISTYLA, A WHITE PHEASANT'S EYE



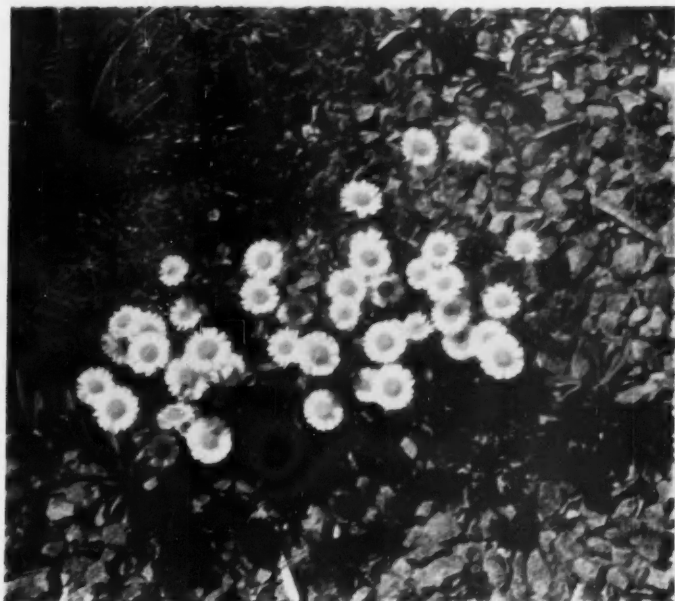
MECONOPSIS QUINTUPLINERVA, THE HAREBELL POPPY



GLOXINIA-LIKE *INCARVILLEA YOUNGHUSBANDII*



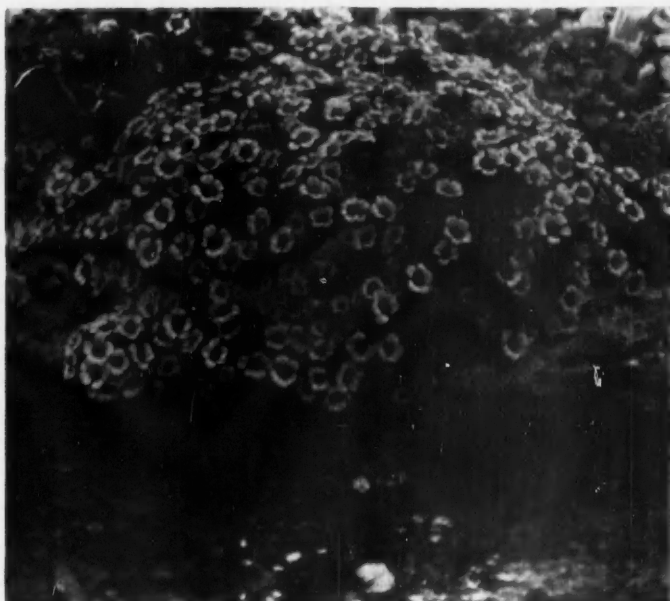
PRIMULA-LIKE *OMPHALOGRAMMA VINCAEFLOREM*



ERIGERON FLETTII, A TINY FLEABANE



ASTER SOULIEI LIMITANEUS, A HANDSOME TIBETAN



SAXIFRAGA OPPOSITIFOLIA IN A SINK GARDEN



PYROLA MINOR, A RARE NATIVE WOODLANDER



LINUM GEMMELL'S HYBRID, A SUN-LOVER



RAMONDA PYRENAICA, FOR SHADY CREVICES



A GOOD COLOUR FORM OF *PRIMULA IOESSA*



PRIMULA REIDII, LOVELY BUT HARD TO GROW



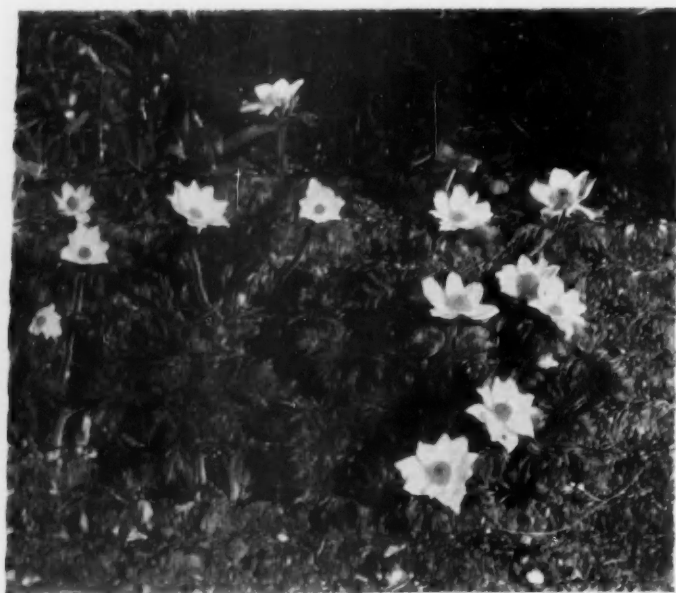
PRIMULA BHUTANICA, A FINE CHINESE PRIMROSE



PRIMULA JONARDONII, A LITTLE-KNOWN SPECIES



PULSATILLA VULGARIS LETCHWORTH



PULSATILLA ALPINA, THE ALPINE ANEMONE

be combined with a reasonably rich soil that is not liable to dry out in summer. It is the winter that is the really testing time for *P. vialii*, as for so many other primulas.

Primula reidii was described by Reginald Farrer as one of the loveliest jewels in the world. Alas, it is rare—so rare that it is seldom that it can be acquired from any commercial source. Instead it is passed on from one enthusiastic amateur to another, to produce its four-inch stems white with meal and supporting a cluster of ivory bells perfect in form and exquisitely delicate in colour. Even to the experts *P. jonardii* is generally little more than a name, for few have seen it. The species is Chinese from the far province of Bhutan and is an attractive species with blue flowers. It is the kind of plant which the collector should place on his list not with any immediate hope of acquisition but rather as a reminder that it exists and may, perhaps, be seen one day in a limited offer of seeds or a private distribution of plants.

Also from the same province of Bhutan comes *Primula bhutanica*. It belongs to the same section of the family as that popular winter flowering gem *P. edgeworthii* (better known to many gardeners as *P. winteri*) and has similar mauve flowers with a lighter eye, but in this instance stained with yellow. It is spring flowering and, like all its group, needs good drainage if it is to be at all permanent.

Primula ioessa is a very different plant, one of the cowslip-like primulas from Tibet, and as

to bear them and their colour is remarkable, yellow striped and blotched with white and chestnut.

The daisy family is so huge that one is constantly coming upon members of it which have been overlooked. Few gardeners are likely to know *Celmisia spectabilis*, a New Zealander which makes spreading tussocks of greyish leaves above which the white daisy flowers are carried on foot-high stems. There are others of the same genus, such as *C. bellidioides* and *C. webbia*, both likewise white flowered. All these, if not exactly in the first rank of rock plants, are certainly worth cultivating for their unfamiliarity. *Erigeron flettii* is yet another white-flowered daisy, but little seems to have been recorded about it. The photograph shows it growing in the alpine garden at Innsbruck where it thrives under moraine conditions and makes a neat plant only a few inches in height. *Aster soulei limitaneus*, the third daisy in this gallery, will be better known to gardeners as *A. forestii*, but even bearing that famous name it has not become so familiar as *A. farreri*, which it resembles closely. The flower stems are about a foot high, each carrying one of the big violet purple flowers.

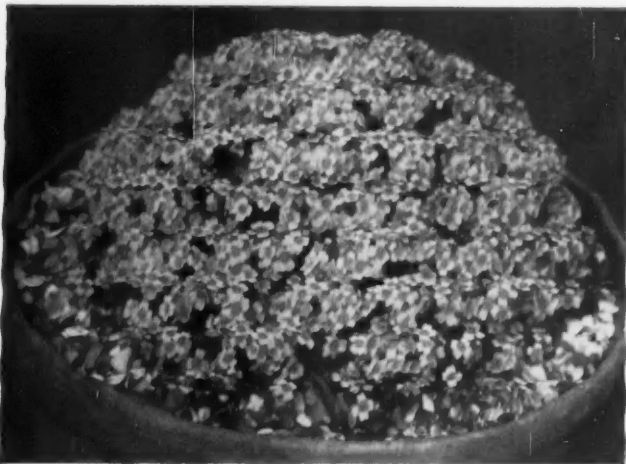
Incarvillea younghusbandii is the one member of a genus of border plants which may rightly be admitted to the rock garden. It is one of Major Sheriff's introductions from Tibet and it closely resembles the much better known *I. grandiflora* in everything but height. As the

ledges in the rock garden where it makes slowly spreading tufts of blue-green leaves lovely in themselves and an admirable background for the large pearly white or pale pink flowers. I think the picture exaggerates the colour for I have never met a form as pink as this.

Pyrola minor is a genuine woodlander and a very rare British one at that. There is no doubt about its being uncommon, but purists may object to its being called a rock plant. Yet, undoubtedly, it is in the rock garden that it is most likely to be grown, in soil largely composed of leaf mould, there to produce its pleasantly glossy leaves and spikes of white flowers remotely like lilies of the valley.

Linum Gemmell's Hybrid I have never met, but I am told that it is a hybrid between that excellent plant *L. flavum* and *L. ibridifolium*. It appears to be as free flowering as the rest of its race and to its unquestioned loveliness adds the more dubious merit of novelty. The gardener who enjoys an innocent joke can at least rest assured that even his most knowledgeable friends will be unlikely to guess the name or origin of this plant.

I have never understood why *Arnebia echioides* is called the prophet flower. But its charm is perfectly apparent for its flowers are brightly coloured and in a warm and sunny spot it produces plenty of them. Even if plants prove hard to come by it should be easy enough to purchase seed which germinates readily and will soon give plants of flowering size.



DRABA POLYTRICHA. It makes a close green cushion of leaves covered in spring with tiny yellow flowers. (Right) **PHYTEUMA COMOSUM,** WHICH HAS CLUSTERS OF CURIOUSLY SHAPED PURPLISH FLOWERS

such allied to *P. sikkimensis* and *P. florindae*, both well known and popular plants. But *P. ioessa* has exchanged the typical cowslip colouring of those species for a most unusual lilac which, in the best forms, deepens to near violet. There is another of the same group which departs in an equally striking manner from the more usual pattern, *P. secundiflora*, which is the colour of claret rendered even more effective by a heavy powdering of white meal.

Trollius acaulis, unlike most of its lowland relatives, is a plant that demands quick drainage, but needs plenty of moisture while it is in growth. It is, in fact, a high alpine accustomed to being watered by the melting snow of the Himalayan mountains on which it is found. It is a very lovely as well as a most uncommon plant. Another aristocratic relative of a common race of plants is the alpine forget-me-not, *Myosotis rupicola*. It is far neater and more compact in growth than any bedding forget-me-not, but the flowers, carried on short stems, have the same clear blue colour.

Geranium cinereum subcaulescens is, in my opinion, easily the best of the small, hardy geraniums suitable for the rock garden. The contrast between its grey-green leaves and fine carmine flowers is so brilliant that I am amazed it is not more widely planted, particularly as it will grow in any ordinary and reasonably drained soil.

Calceolaria darwinii is one of those plants so strange in appearance that they invariably arouse comment. It carries its large pouch-shaped flowers on stems that seem too fragile

picture shows, it is a remarkable dwarf plant with flowers of great size and beauty.

At one time all the meconopes might have been classed as uncommon, but *M. betonicifolia* (or *baileyi*) has been so well publicised that most gardeners are familiar with it, even if many of them fail to grow it well. But the harebell poppy, *M. quintuplinervia*, is as great a rarity as ever, a lovely plant from the high mountains of Tibet with blue-purple flowers carried singly on stems like those of the Iceland poppy, but crooked so that the flowers hang like bells. It is a perennial and needs the cool, moist but porous soil that so many of its kind crave.

Saxifraga oppositifolia and *Ramonda pyrenaica* (or *Myconi pyrenaica*, to give it its newest name) scarcely belong in this gallery at all, for both are common enough exhibits at spring flower shows. The odd thing is that few except the expert rock gardeners grow them, despite the fact that each is a really easy plant in the right place. The saxifrage likes to creep about in the moraine with plenty of small stones on top to keep its roots cool and moist. The ramonda is that unusual thing, a rock plant that prefers shade. Plant it in rather leafy soil in a crevice on the north face of a terrace or double wall and it will be perfectly happy.

The same comments about familiarity at shows and comparative neglect in gardens might equally apply to that most engaging of all wood sorrels, *Oxalis enneaphylla*. Perhaps it is not really fair to call it a wood sorrel for it does not live in woods; nor does it ramp about like our own native species. Instead, it likes warm sunny

The plant which botanists now say must be known as *Minuartia caucasica* is, in fact, to the gardener just a very neat and attractive arenaria. It has no desire to be invasive like some of its kind, but makes a close cushion of leaves well covered, as the picture shows, by the tiny white flowers. It deserves a good place in the moraine, as does another select member of the so frequently vulgar cabbage tribe, *Thlaspi rotundifolium*. The small lilac flowers are fragrant, a quality in itself rare among alpines, and when the plant is happily established, are freely produced. But this is not the easiest of plants to grow well.

Omphalogramma viciiflorum is rare because it is difficult—a plant in general for the alpine house and even then needing considerable care in watering. No doubt the occasional sight of its large and remarkably periwinkle-like flowers is sufficient reward for the enthusiast. It is, by the way, quite unrelated to the periwinkle, being in fact, allied, though somewhat distantly, to the primrose.

The final member of my gallery, *Adonis brevistyla*, must rely upon its picture for its reputation, for I know nothing of it except that it is reputed to come from China. There are, however, other species of pheasant's eye which have not been so reticent: *A. vernalis*, for example, which produces its cheerful yellow flowers in April, and *A. aestivalis*, which greets midsummer with a spurt of crimson bloom. All are worth having, but *A. aestivalis* must be renewed from seed each spring as it is only an annual.

THE REINAGLES RE-CONSIDERED

By DENYS SUTTON

ON the whole, little is known about the rôle of such minor painters as Philip and Ramsay Richard Reinagle in the English art world of their day. Although their work is not particularly distinguished (their sporting paintings, however, are rather better than is sometimes believed) as members of the circle that centred on the Royal Academy they were in touch with many of the leading personalities of their time.

Philip Reinagle (1749-1833) was born in Scotland of Hungarian descent, the son of a musician who had served in the army of Maria Theresa and come to Scotland in the train of the Young Pretender. Reinagle became a pupil of Allan Ramsay when fourteen and remained so for seven years. After that term he stayed his assistant for the remainder of this artist's life. As Mr. Alastair Smart has shown in his admirable *The Life and Art of Allan Ramsay* (1952), he was not only one of the master's intimates, but actually executed a large amount of work which was ostensibly done by Ramsay himself. In 1782, when Ramsay was in Italy, Reinagle is said to have produced 180 copies of the royal portraits (based on Ramsay's design) for which his clever master was paid £84 a time. (At the start of his career Reinagle received £10 for such pictures, but by 1782 his fee had risen to £42.) Small wonder after so much hackwork that Reinagle should never have thought of portrait painting "without a sort of horror."

Unfortunately, the surviving details concerning Reinagle's career are few. He may have visited Italy at the end of the century, as a view entitled *The Grand Convent of Scholastica, near Subiaco* appeared at the Royal Academy in 1800; sixteen years later he sent in a Portuguese scene, which suggests a journey to the Peninsula. However, his main activity was as a painter of sport and animal pictures. That he chose as the theme of his diploma work (1801) a vulture disputing with a hyena throws light on his interests: it is an instance of the taste for using animals to express romantic sensibility—a practice more passionately pursued by Géricault and James Ward.

The reasons which attracted Reinagle to this branch of painting are not now known. It may have been a reaction against so much portrait painting; and the production of such pictures certainly provided a means of livelihood. From as early as 1781, when he was still working for Ramsay, dates the excellent group



SIX MEMBERS OF THE CARROW ABBEY HUNT, BY PHILIP REINAGLE, R.A., 1781. Private collection, London

portrait of members of the Carrow Abbey Hunt, and something of Ramsay's touch may be discerned in the heads. According to an inscription on the reverse, the picture was painted in Norwich and was the property of John South Morse. It was to remain with him until his death and then to devolve on the following persons (presumably the sitters): John Morse, Robert Harvey, Jeremiah Tompson, Jeremiah Ives and Timothy Tompson.

Two years later Reinagle exhibited a still life of dead game at the Royal Academy. From then onwards he contributed animal paintings, sporting pictures and landscapes to the Royal Academy. His clientèle was apparently quite considerable for such works: he formed one of the group that gathered round Colonel Thomas Thornton (1757-1823), visiting him at Thornville Royal, Yorkshire, with his friend and occasional collaborator Gilpin. He also executed a number of pictures of flowers and plants for Dr. Thornton which were exhibited in New Bond-street in 1804. He played a certain part as a teacher and his pupils included Thomas Lister, later 2nd Lord Ribblesdale, and Henry Howard, later Secretary of the Royal Academy, who married one of his daughters.

Like many of his contemporaries, Reinagle had one foot in the dealing world and worked as a copyist and restorer: his speciality was Dutch painting (Berchem and Potter in particular). Indeed, members of his family seem to have been set to work on copying Old Masters. Farington reported on August 15, 1807: "Two or three of Old Reinagle's daughters are now copying parts of pictures (the whole of any picture is not allowed to be copied but by express permission) by Old Masters lent for this season to the British Institution: They told Constable that in painting these copies they begin with

water colours only upon a raw canvass over which they pass lightly some oil to fix the colours & make them bear out, & then touch upon such parts as may require it with oil colours. This, they said, their Father declared to be the only way of copying the pictures of Old Masters successfully.—They work very quick, & said, 'Pictures painted one day—sold the next—money spent the third.'"

One has the impression that Philip Reinagle well deserved B. R. Haydon's words that he was a "nice old fellow," with his memories of Reynolds using so much asphaltum that it dropped on the floor. Then, too, he sympathised with Haydon's troubles, thinking him "infamously used"—a sure way to the heart. But, as Turner pointed out, when Reinagle came up for election as an Academician in 1811, he was not "fixed to any one point in art." However, he was elected in 1812.

His son, Ramsay Richard Reinagle (1775-1862), was a more powerful personality than his father, though lacking character. He is known to have been in Rome in 1796: subsequently he is said to have spent some time in Holland. His tour of Italy seems to have been extensive; he submitted views of Rome, Naples and Florence to the Royal Academy in 1798, 1799, 1800, 1802, 1806, 1807, 1808 and in 1819 (the Pont Molle), and in 1800 a German scene. Two Italian water-colours (one of Capri, signed and dated 1799) are in the Victoria and Albert Museum; however, few of his Continental scenes appear to have survived.

Reinagle is usually remembered for his portrait of Constable (National Portrait Gallery). At one stage both artists were friends, but they fell out over a picture by Ruysdael which they had bought in half shares in about 1799 and which Constable copied. Constable declared that Reinagle, having exchanged the picture for three others, "says he shall bring me my share of the money soon. If he does I shall of course be satisfied. He seems so anxious in telling me this that I dare say he will sell the three pictures for full the original sum we gave for the Ruysdael. I yesterday saw a fine Landscape of this master on sale price 300 gns." The breach was sufficiently strong for Constable to decline Reinagle's invitation to dine: "This would be," he declared, "reviving an intimacy again which I am determined never shall exist again, if I can have any self command. I know the man and I know him to be no inward man." An ironic comment on their relationship was that in 1823 Reinagle was elected to the Academy in place of Constable. Characteristic of Reinagle's impudence was his claim—ventured in a letter to the *Literary*



A VULTURE DISPUTING WITH A HYENA, BY PHILIP REINAGLE, 1801. Royal Academy



WINTER—SNIPE SHOOTING, BY PHILIP REINAGLE, 1810. Private collection, England

Gazette (1850) long after his former friend's death—that Constable had been his pupil. In fact, he claimed that Constable had exhibited "a landscape in the large room at Somerset House, in which I painted a group of cattle, showing the breath streaming from their mouths. I did them with a palette knife to imitate his manner and he kindly fathered them."

Like his father, Reinagle served as an assistant to another artist, John Hoppner, and painted many sporting and nature pictures which were exhibited either at the Royal Academy or the British Institution. These included *Sir Ralph Woodford's Corsican Dog seizing a Wolf* (1794) and *Woodcock shooting at Chatsworth Park* (1814). Some idea of his calibre can, in fact, be gathered from the powerful portrait of Mr. Thomson, animal and bird preserver to the Leverian and British Museums (Royal Academy in 1802), which reflects Dutch influence in the still life and the elegant portrait of a gentleman with his horse. Reinagle also painted watercolours, and from 1808 to 1812 he served as President of the Old Water Colour Society. His various ventures included the painting of panoramas, then so popular. In about 1802 he worked for Robert Barker, who owned the panorama in Leicester-square. Later he went into partnership with Barker's eldest son and helped to found a rival establishment—the Strand Panorama—which presented panoramas of Paris (the "explanation" of which is in the Victoria and Albert Museum), Rome, Naples, and Florence. In 1816 the concern was disposed of to H. A. Barker: according to Farington, as early as 1806 Reinagle lost money. "Reinagle," the diarist went on, "now teaches drawing & in consequence of the great success of Glover in selling his views of the Lakes is gone to that country accompanied by Havill to store themselves with subjects for drawings."

Reinagle possessed a ready pen, contributing an account of Allan Ramsay's life to Cunningham's *British Painters* and writing the letterpress for J. M. W. Turner's *Sussex Views*. His most interesting publications (which are almost unknown) were his *Catalogue Raisonné of the British Institution* (1815-1816). These pugnacious attacks on the exhibition of Old Masters staged by this body in 1815 and 1816, although unsigned, were given to Reinagle by Samuel and Richard Regrave in their *A Century of British Painters* (1866).

The pamphlets were a riposte inspired (so a contemporary source attests) by certain members of the Royal Academy who considered that the exhibition of Old Masters cast a slight on the

modern school. Haydon, reported that when he saw Sir Thomas Lawrence looking at Van Dyck's *Portrait of Gevartius* he turned round and "to my wonder his face was boiling with rage as he grated out between his teeth 'I suppose they think we want teaching.'" It was hardly surprising that the tone of the pamphlets should have been so venomous. The note was made clear from the outset when the author declared that the public appreciated the deep laid scheme of the British Institution in praising the moderns by "pretence of holding up the Antients to our admiration" and by showing "rubbed out pictures" or "imitative daubs"—the works of the "Black masters."

Although some of the bombs launched by the Incendiary (as Reinagle termed himself) were justified, a critic can hardly claim distinction who writes of Rembrandt's famous landscape *The Mill*, then belonging to Mr. Smith, M.P. (now at Philadelphia), "It is a good but not an extraordinary picture," or of the notable equestrian portrait (then called *Marshall Turenne*) by the same artist from Earl Cowper's collection: "It is totally undeserving attention except for a few qualities of colour and texture in parts, and which can alone be valuable or even intelligible to a practical man. . . . It is truly ridiculous." Again, the Incendiary wrote of Van Dyck's celebrated whole-length portrait of the Abbé Scaglia, then belonging to Sir Thomas Baring and now to Lady Camrose: "the hands are too large and the confused and false perspective of the background is not very complimentary to the resources and the perseverance of the painter." In fact, as quotation would prove, hardly a picture went unchallenged and praise, when given, was most grudging.

Here is a sample from the second volume of 1816 which concerns Lavinia Fontana's *St. Sebastian and St. Cecilia*, then belonging to the Rev. John Sandford, the collector, and now at Corsham: "Mr. Sandford certainly deserves the public thanks of the artists of the United Kingdom, for his patriotism in sending for their study this truly exquisite specimen of china ware by Lavinia Fontana. Had it been before the late improvements in the art at Worcester, it might have ranked tolerably high; but we fear that the intention is all that we can thank the gentleman for now."

The pamphlets are also interesting for the hints they provide about some of the collectors of the time. Thus that rich West Indian nabob George Watson Taylor (whose wonderful collection containing many pieces of French 18th-century furniture that subsequently passed to Windsor was sold by Christie's in 1825) makes a brief appearance: "This Taylor . . . a young collector, must mind what he is about. The picture (a landscape by Gaspard Poussin) is rather too little injured by cleaning, and by no means black enough to merit great admiration." His strongest fire was reserved for the Rev. Holwell Carr, the *marchand amateur*, one-time partner of Buchanan and benefactor of the National Gallery, who was criticised for pushing his wares in the exhibition. However, Reinagle's own connection with the art market raises the question of his objectivity. On another occasion, attention is drawn to the action brought by Richard Hart Davis against Bonelli, who had sold him fakes.

In the second part of the 1816 publication Reinagle printed a sharp skit against the directors of the British Institution and their friends called *Information relative to the Fine Arts in Africa*, as reported by Bumjat, a young Hottentot artist. This dealt in thinly veiled terms with the conflict between the Academy and the British Institution. The darts were pointed (and in our day might have brought the author into the courts); fortunately, the identities of his "sitters" are revealed in the annotated copy of the pamphlet (formerly belonging to Westmacott, the sculptor) in the Victoria and Albert Museum.

Thus the Marquis of Stafford, the founder of the celebrated Stafford Gallery, who had actually bought a picture by Reinagle in 1813, was presented as Mumbo. Richard Payne Knight, the collector of Claude drawings and antiques, and the famous opponent of the Elgin marbles (on whom see Christopher Hussey in the *COUNTRY LIFE Annual* for 1956), was called



MR. THOMSON, ANIMAL AND BIRD PRESERVER TO THE LEVERIAN AND BRITISH MUSEUMS, BY RAMSAY RICHARD REINAGLE, 1802. Ind Coope and Allsop

Sooton. He has "a large head, with very little wool, and a mouth wide enough to conceal a cocoa-nut. He is besides very peremptory, presumptuous and pedantic." Sir George Beaumont was nicknamed Figgity and described as "capricious, cowardly, and treacherous as a Hyaena . . . this year (he) admires a Yellow picture, next year a Brown one." As for Lady Beaumont, she was presented as Sosee Moosa. "She collects the eggs which Figgity uses in painting, and makes vinegar herself." The Earl of Mulgrave appeared as Bombo and Sir Thomas Bernard as Diggery. The Rev. Holwell Carr was termed Marabo; he would undertake "any dirty work" and "is amply recompensed by Mumbo's patting him on the back and spitting in his mouth." Seguier, the restorer and cleaner, appears as Sego: "None has made a purchase without first consulting Sego." Sir Abraham Hume, the collector who favoured Venetian pictures and whose paintings passed to the Brownlow family, was called Sillee Foolah: his son-in-law Sir Charles Long (later Lord Farnborough), who acted as an art adviser to the Prince Regent, was known as Jang. Benjamin West appeared as Tcelee Gee.

Reinagle's ill-tempered publications did not go unchallenged, and articles appeared in *The Examiner* on November 3, 10 and 17 which—so the annotated copy states—were by William Hazlitt. In these hard-hitting articles the *Catalogue* is specifically dubbed as an expression of the Academy's views and its author called "a toad eater," "a dirty Grub Street critic" and one who had "fallen foul of two things which ought to be sacred to artists and lovers of Art-Genius and Fame."

Yet Reinagle's diatribe did not imply active dislike of the Old Masters. In 1819 he staged an exhibition of the three copies he had painted after Rubens's *The Crucifixion*, *The*



GENTLEMAN WITH A HORSE, BY RAMSAY RICHARD REINAGLE, 1816. Private collection, Scotland

Adoration of the Kings and *The Entombment* (at Antwerp) in 61, Pall Mall, two doors away from the British Gallery. The catalogue, apparently written by Reinagle himself, expressed the warmest admiration for Rubens. Thus *The Crucifixion* was "so awfully impressive, so full of the terrible sublime . . . the most touching to the feelings, the boldest and most surprising Composition of the subject, the art has ever produced." As for *The Adoration*, it

possessed "poetic fire in the distribution of all the parts: every variety of expression, natural and consistent, may be found; and all the whole is bound up in unity . . . this group," he declared, "sweeps from the highest part of the Picture down to the bottom, in a grand serpentine line. Rubens indulged in the application of this form to his compositions; he seems to have preferred the picturesque at all costs which he understood better than any other artist." And of *The Entombment*, he said: "There is much in the art to be gathered from these works—the combination of finish, breadth, simplicity, transparency, and slightness of painting, are most curiously and studiously assembled."

Reinagle won a reputation as a skilled copyist and a group of his imitations after Titian, Van Dyck and Gaspard Poussin (including one in the National Gallery) appeared in the exhibition of two hundred examples of modern art at Lichfield House, St. James's-square (sold at Robinson and Foster's, November 27, 1851). He was also called upon in 1823 to restore the cartoon by Leonardo in the Royal Academy; in 1833 he was one of a committee (Briggs and Westall were his colleagues) that arranged the Royal Academy exhibition.

Reinagle's last years were not unchequered. In 1848 he was forced to resign from the Academy as he was found guilty of having bought "at a broker's shop a picture painted by a young and comparatively unknown artist, named Yarnald, and subsequently exhibited at the Royal Academy, and sold it as his own" (W. Sandby, *History of the Royal Academy*). His misconduct did not, however, preclude his continuing to exhibit, and both before and after the incident he received a pension that continued until his death.

COUNTRY ANNIVERSARIES OF 1956

By GARTH CHRISTIAN

THIS day, I first acquainted his Majesty with that incomparable young man Gibbon, whom I had lately met with in an obscure place by mere accident," wrote John Evelyn, in his *Diary* for 1671. Peering through the window of a small thatched cottage at Deptford, he saw Grinling Gibbons carving a crucifix in a way which "for curiosity of handling, drawing and studious exactness I never had before seen in all my travels." Within six weeks Evelyn had introduced the young craftsman to Charles II, while his *Diary* records: "His Majesty's Surveyor, Mr. Wren, faithfully promised me to employ him."

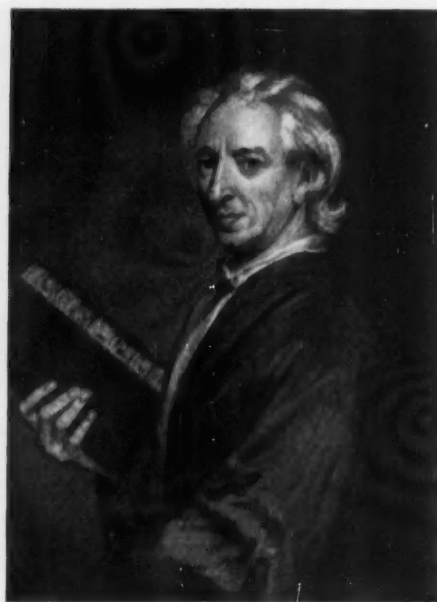
The choir stalls in St. Paul's Cathedral reveal how faithfully Wren kept his word. Whether standing beside Gibbons's noble carvings at Petworth or walking along the terraces at Albury Park which Evelyn designed, one cannot but feel grateful to this alert and energetic diarist who died 250 years ago—on February 27, 1706.

Possessing the curiosity of a Gilbert White and the wide interests of a John Ray, this former Secretary of the Royal Society was as excited by the joys of gardening and forestry as he was worried by the problem of smoke in cities, astonished by the skill of the travelling acrobat, and intrigued by the hairy woman of the fair ground who was an accomplished exponent of the harpsichord.

His friend Samuel Pepys found him "a most excellent person," though not without "a little conceitedness." Yet this failing did not banish the human understanding which prompted his sympathy for the Queen, whose teeth "wronged" her mouth "by sticking a little too far out."

Many a fine hedge of holly may owe its existence to his example in growing one at Sayes Court, Deptford, which was 400 ft. long, 9 ft. high and 5 ft. wide. He was no less successful in fostering the popularity of the hornbeam and the lime. It has been suggested that he may

have inspired the planting of the limes which we see to-day in St. James's Park. Yet he was no friend of the sycamore. Many landowners who tramped through their parks with new zest after reading his *Sylva* (1664) were apt to scorn the sycamore owing to the "honey-dew leaves



JOHN EVELYN, THE DIARIST (1620-1706). "This former Secretary of the Royal Society was as excited by the joys of forestry and gardening as he was worried by the problems of smoke in cities"

which fall early" and attract "noxious insects." Since this lovely tree was introduced to Britain as late as the 15th century, it may have been more uncommon than the hornbeam when John Leland, the King's Antiquary (he was the first and last man to hold this office) rode along the dusty tracks of England noting the nature of the moors and mountains, villages and rivers. Born in London some 450 years ago, Leland proved himself a keen observer and a well-informed genealogist who revelled in the company of his fellows. He amused some of them with his "ditties," several of which were sung at the Coronation of Anne Boleyn.

Readers of his *Itinerary*, published in nine volumes in 1710, must have been at least as familiar as Evelyn had been with the perils of the English roads. A ride to Cambridge, for instance, became a hazardous undertaking after Dick Turpin, the apprentice-butcher turned highwayman, who was born 250 years ago, went into partnership with the notorious felon Tom King. To modern eyes Turpin is apt to appear a romantic figure charging through the night on a splendid horse with all the zest and skill of a Hollywood cowboy. Nor at this distance of time do his frequent smuggling and deer-stealing rob him of a certain glamour. But the same can hardly be said of the way he raided lonely farm-houses when the menfolk were absent, not always hesitating to torture housewives who were slow to reveal where the family wealth was hidden.

A dramatic flight from Epping Forest to Yorkshire after he had accidentally shot his companion in crime was followed by a period as a horse-dealer under the name Palmer. Then, at the age of 33, he was hanged for horse-thieving, to lie forgotten in a York graveyard until Harrison Ainsworth brought him ill-deserved fame by introducing him into the novel *Rookwood* (1834).

For most countrymen, the hanging of Dick Turpin was less important than the perennial

problem of the roads, which, declared a writer of the day, were "quite inadequate" for modern traffic. Concern was felt too about the decline in game caused by "irregular and destructive methods now practised to destroy it." The thirsty pheasant, strutting towards the clear waters of some woodland pool, was too often shot by trespassers from the towns or poachers from the village. Red squirrels raided many nests. Foxes and stoats were abundant. So were half-wild cats.

One solution advanced in 1756 was for "every labouring man" to be permitted to keep a gun for the purpose of shooting "all birds other than game." It was suggested too that on certain days in the year villagers might even be allowed to shoot pheasants provided the birds were more than a mile "from any gentleman's seat." Measures of this kind met with little favour among landowners, and harsh game laws were soon enforced. Yet squires and poachers shared many interests, not least the thrills of the cock-pit, and in 1756 the *Gloucester Journal* published this curious advertisement: "This is to give notice to all lovers of cruelty and promoters of misery that at the George Inn on Wednesday in Whitsun-week will be provided for their diversion that savage sport of cock-fighting which cannot but give delight to every breed thoroughly divested of humanity . . . and such as have no reverence for the deity."

Not that country folk spent all their leisure beside the cock-pit or in the game preserve. Much interest had been aroused by Francis Beale's *The Royall Game of Chesse Play*, which had appeared a century earlier, in 1656. The writings of the 17th-century naturalists, too, had aroused growing curiosity about the ways of the wild creatures. Yet this new awareness was often marred by a little "unnatural history."

It was not easy to kill the theory that swallows migrated to the moon, advanced by a Mr. Morton early in the 18th century; and the claim of the old heraldic writers that deer "delyghteth much in music" found support as late as last century, when the Rev. W. B. Daniel, naturalist and author, described how a herd of 20 stags had been "lured" all the way from Yorkshire to Hampton Court by means of bagpipes and a violin, pausing in their journey only when the music stopped.

Before the blazing fire in many a village inn sportsmen talked of that ever-topical subject the food of foxes, noting how the animals liked berries and beetles and shared with snakes a liking for frogs; and it was this same Mr. Daniel

who declared that foxes in France and Italy had often proved excessively fond of grapes, a claim that would not have surprised the West Sussex farmer who last year complained that foxes were eating his plums.

In what reporters call Court circles men talked too of the poets, and, especially of Stephen Duck. On a weekly income of four shillings and sixpence, this Wiltshire farm labourer managed to buy numbers of books, including the dictionary with whose aid he read *Paradise Lost*, Dryden's *Virgil* and Seneca's *Morals*. Most of his poetry was thrown on his fire as soon as it was written. But some of his verse reached Queen Caroline, who granted him an annuity of at least £30. He died in a trout stream at Reading on March 21, 1756, but a century later, thanks to the generosity of Lord Palmerston, the "adult males" of the village of Charlton continued to enjoy an annual feast in honour of this farmworker poet.

Henry Kirke White (1785 to 1806) was no less enterprising, learning Spanish and Portuguese as well as Latin and Greek after leaving the Nottingham stocking factory and lawyer's office where he worked as a boy. John Stuart Mill, born on May 20, 150 years ago, was even more energetic. Before the age of seven he was learning Latin and, in the manner of the Lancastrian system of schooling, teaching it to his younger sisters. He was reading Greek at the age of eight. He was acquainted with Aristotle and Thucydides, Horace and Livy by the time he was eleven. Then he began to write a history of Rome. Even as the dawn chorus drenched the woods with song, the boy walked with his father talking of Gibbon and Hume, Plutarch and Plato, whom he was made to study between 6 and 9 a.m. and 10 and 1 p.m. each day. This harsh upbringing left him, like Charles Darwin, with a sharp distaste for Shakespeare. Yet he found time to become a good botanist with a deep love for the countryside. It would have delighted him, I think, if he could have read the Sunday newspaper which some months ago quoted a second-hand booksellers' catalogue containing the curious entry:

Mill . . . On Liberty,
Mill . . . On The Floss.

Elizabeth Barrett Browning, born on March 6, 1806 (the year of the deaths of Mungo Park and Thomas Sheraton) was remarkable as a child. At eight she was reading Homer in the original and her first published work appeared when she was thirteen. Yet she found plenty of time to play in the fields and woods around her Herefordshire home at Hope End, near Ledbury, with its Moorish-style windows and turrets and its organ in the great hall.

At least Miss Browning, with her flair for languages, was not sent on tour in the manner of young George Bidder (1806 to 1878), who achieved no small fame as "the Calculating Phenomenon." Son of a Dartmoor stonemason, Bidder was able to tackle advanced mathematical problems with unfailing accuracy and remarkable speed without the aid of chalk or pen. Many children of rare talent are forgotten in later years. Bidder achieved distinction as an engineer who developed the first railway swing bridges. On one occasion learned counsel pleaded that he might be banished from court during the hearing of a case since "Nature has endowed him with qualities that do not place his opponents on a fair footing."

It is not uncommon nowadays to meet naturalists who late in life have exchanged the gun for the pen. It was less usual when William Yarrell, well versed in the ways of wild birds after almost forty years of patient egg-collecting and skilful marksmanship, decided to devote his time to watching birds. A sound observer well acquainted with the anatomy of birds, Yarrell was the first man to distinguish the Bewick's swan from the larger whooper swan. His *History of British Fishes* (1836) and *A History of British Birds* (1843) long found a place in the libraries of most English country squires.

On one occasion he startled gamekeepers by recording a pheasant weighing 4½ lb., and he found a pair whose combined weights exceeded 9 lb. After Yarrell's death at Yarmouth on September 1, 1856, a medallion bearing his portrait and supported by two Bewick's swans—



THE NOTTINGHAMSHIRE CRICKETER ARTHUR SHREWSBURY (1856-1903). He headed the English batting averages five times and in 1887 scored eight successive centuries

named after his friend Thomas Bewick—was placed in St. James's Church, Piccadilly.

John Reeves (1774 to 1856) was an inspector of the East India Company who was largely responsible for the introduction to England of *Camellia reticulata* and *Wistaria sinensis*. To Charles St. John, who died on July 22, 1856, we owe the delightful *A Tour in Sutherlandshire* (1849) and *Wild Sports of the Highlands* (1864). He is said, when a pupil at Midhurst Grammar School, to have kept a rabbit, a red squirrel and a guinea pig in his dormitory, housing them in hutches composed of the *Delphin Classics* and Ainsworth's *Dictionary*.

His was a life of strenuous leisure stalking deer and shooting birds. When Cosmo Innes sent to the *Quarterly Review* a description of St. John's pursuit of the great Mucklehart of Benmore, J. G. Lockhart declared: "It would be sufficient to float any number." For in a chase that extended over several days St. John encountered golden eagles at close quarters, shot a brace of grouse with the same shot, risked his life to cross a rushing burn, spent a night in a smugglers' hide-out to which he was attracted by the wild Scotch music of a fiddle, and after more adventures, used his hands in a life-and-death struggle with his prey.

It is sad that so many wild creatures fell victim to his brilliant marksmanship. Sir Henry Rider Haggard, who, like George Bernard Shaw, was born in 1856, seems by contrast to have possessed something of a reverence for life. We remember him to-day as the author of *King Solomon's Mines* (1885); he deserves to be honoured too for all he did to waken public opinion to the dangers of a declining countryside, and his *Rural England* (1902), the fruit of extensive travels, is still well worth reading.

Arthur Shrewsbury, born on April 11, 1856, headed the English batting averages five times in late Victorian times. Years after his death men still talked of the eight successive centuries he scored in 1887, including a brilliant 267 for Nottinghamshire against Middlesex. To-day in the Sussex village of Chailey where Charles St. John was born, talk of next season's visit by the Australians sometimes leads to reminiscences of the great "Test Match" in 1896, when the Earl of Sheffield's XI drew with the Australians at Sheffield Park. Ranjitsinhji was soon nursing a split ear; F. S. Jackson played a gallant innings which left him with a broken rib; W. G. Grace announced that he was badly bruised; and it was then that Arthur Shrewsbury was heard to declare: "Cricketers with wives and children to support should not be asked to play on such wickets."

Illustrations: Picture Post Library.



SIR HENRY RIDER HAGGARD, THE NOVELIST (1856-1926). Though he is perhaps best remembered for *King Solomon's Mines*, he deserves to be honoured also for all he did to awaken public opinion to the dangers of a declining countryside

PROBLEMS OF ARCTIC BIRD LIFE

Written and Illustrated by H. N. SOUTHERN

THE Arctic regions are now so much travelled over and photographed that we already know much about the animals and plants that live there. An expedition has very little hope by now of bringing back any spectacular novelty. Indeed, it is becoming harder year by year for universities or public schools to invent a sufficiently attractive excuse for launching an expedition and persuading people to give them food and supplies. This is in some ways a change for the good, because young people, especially naturalists, should visit the Arctic to widen their own experience and enjoy the colourful solitudes rather than to bring back more collections.

Some of the magic has also gone from the Arctic now that it can be reached in many places by simply boarding a train or a bus. On arrival it is even possible to stay at a comfortable hotel instead of camping. Under such circumstances a journey to the Arctic is not automatically an achievement of hardihood.

These two processes, the improvement of facilities for travellers and the near-completion of our knowledge about the flora and fauna of high latitudes, are initiating a new phase in the study of the Arctic, the turning of attention, as far as naturalists are concerned, to the more general biological problems which are more particularly open to attack there. It is with one or two aspects of these problems that I deal here in the hope that it may tempt some would-be Arctic visitors to do more than bring back with them a list of species identified. A good start in this direction has been made by several expeditions, notably that from Cambridge University, which visited Swedish Lapland this year.

What are the main impressions we receive about Arctic faunas from the accounts brought back by visitors? Generally speaking, these faunas are poor in species, but very rich (at times) in numbers. There are, for instance, impressive descriptions of the magnitude of seabird colonies and of the cyclical abundance of some of the mammals and of the birds and beasts that prey on them. But writers also insist on the stretches of desolation (in space and time) between these peaks of abundance. One of the most important differences, therefore, between Arctic and temperate faunas is that the numbers of their populations fluctuate over wider ranges.

Nevertheless, even if a species of animal is found in great multitudes one year and in great scarcity another, the violence of the fluctuations



LAKE IN SWEDISH LAPLAND WITH BIRCH FOREST SURROUNDING IT AND THE DOUBLE PEAK OF SOMASLAKI BEHIND

never seems to be enough to cause extinction. This means that processes of regulation are at work, though year-to-year oscillations in numbers around the mean value are greater than they are in, say, Great Britain. These processes of regulation may, therefore, be more pointed and discernible in the Arctic than in our own more stable populations. Here is a subject that the ecologically minded expedition might well study with the prospect of learning more about how animals are maintained at certain definite mean densities.

Let us examine some concrete examples. An Arctic tern arriving back in the spring at its ancestral nesting ground in Scotland has little to do but scrape a hollow in the shingle, lay its eggs and sit upon them. An Arctic tern arriving at the end of its long journey in Spitzbergen may find its nesting ground still covered with snow, if the spring is late. It must wait not only until the snow has gone, but until the land has ceased to be swamped by the snow melting from still

higher regions. This may on occasions be so late that the poor Arctic tern must prepare for its return journey before it has had time to carry out its breeding cycle.

Consider also the long-tailed skua, the most graceful of this group, which we in Great Britain rarely see in the beauty of its breeding plumage. In the spring and summer it feeds mainly on voles and lemmings, but, should it arrive on the high tundra to find that there are next to none of these small rodents, it must be reconciled to missing a year as far as breeding is concerned and hope for better conditions in the following year.

I myself once witnessed one of these lean years in Swedish Lapland in 1937. The birch forest on the lower ground was full of voles, but above the tree line and up to the high fells there were neither lemmings nor voles in any appreciable numbers. The colony of long-tailed skuas which I came across had completed their journey and occupied their territory, but even in early July not one of them was breeding. Instead, they simply sat around loafing, allowing quite close approach, but taking wing, when one came too close for comfort, in a leisurely and nonchalant way which proclaimed that they had no family anxieties.

These two examples show that in the Arctic, birds are largely dependent on the chancy timing of the spring, and spring here means not only the generation of insect life upon which to feed young, but the very unfolding of the landscape itself before breeding becomes even possible. With such a radical and arbitrarily-imposed variation of birth rate from year to year, one wonders how these animals manage to maintain their numbers at even so steady a level as that observed.

One answer may be that, at any rate away from the main Continental areas, Arctic birds and mammals are relatively large. It is quite possible that many of them have a fairly long expectation of life, which helps to iron out year-to-year fluctuations in numbers. Among the cliff-breeding birds that are especially abundant on the Arctic islands are several species of auks. We know very little yet about how long these birds live, but some preliminary colour-marking experiments with guillemots suggest that 20 years or more may not be beyond their capabilities. Some mass marking of adult auks at Arctic colonies by expeditions might well produce from returns some interesting records of survival. The construction of life tables from ring returns needs much care, because there are many errors that can creep in, but we can at



LONG-TAILED SKUA IN SWEDISH LAPLAND. In years when there is a shortage of the voles and lemmings on which they mainly feed in spring and summer these skuas may fail to breed



TYPICAL BIRDS OF THE BIRCH FORESTS: A BLUETHROAT AND (right) A MEALY REDPOLL AT ITS NEST

least get a rough glimpse into the average number of years each group may expect to live.

But on the Continental areas of the Arctic this does not apply. The birch forest is as full of small passerines as an English oak wood. This was one of the things that surprised me most on my visit to Lapland mentioned above. A short walk among the birch trees was quite enough to show the great abundance of fieldfares, redwings, bramblings, mealy redpolls, willow-warblers and bluethroats, while willow-tits, spotted and pied flycatchers, redstarts, lesser spotted woodpeckers and dunnocks were frequent.

Now real spring does not arrive in these regions until June and, although the snow melts very quickly once it starts, there is yet a period of a fortnight or so when the ground is still too marshy for many species to think of nesting. So late a start must mean that the number of broods reared must be less than in England, where breeding can start in April. We are, however, short of figures to measure this difference accurately: this is another point that an expedition could investigate.

Does anything counterbalance this? It has been suggested that among birds the clutch size in Arctic regions is larger than in the same or corresponding species at lower latitudes. So far this contention is based on slender evidence and many more records need collecting before we can regard it as proved. It is possible, also, that fledging periods may be shorter because there is more daylight in which to collect food for the young, which, therefore, grow more quickly. Again this needs checking by observation.

One thing that struck me particularly in the fairly tall birch forest at Abisko was that species using the trees for nesting had a great advantage over ground nesters. Fieldfares, redwings, woodpeckers and willow-tits all had chicks in the nest when I arrived in the middle of June, compared with the willow-warblers, bluethroats, grey-headed wagtails, and so on which had hardly started incubating. As far as redwings and fieldfares were concerned, this early start among the snow definitely allowed them to have a second brood, because I found many new nests towards the end of June. Whether ground-nesters could also achieve this I left too early to determine.

Another fascinating field for enquiry is into activity rhythms of birds at these high latitudes. Theoretically there is no reason why birds should not feed their young throughout the 24 hours, since the sun is perpetually shining, but one of the most impressive things to me was the way in which a sudden and complete silence fell upon all the birds just before midnight. It was almost uncanny how this change occurred each evening at the same time in spite of the continuing bright sunshine. All the same it was fairly clear that this was a short break

compared with the period of darkness in our own latitudes, and it is possible that a bigger total of food is carried to the young because of this. An expedition equipped with simple, automatic activity recorders, which could be fitted to a nest or a nest-hole, could quickly gather valuable data on this point, especially if observations were also made at a few nests on the kinds of food brought.

Another question that bears on the breeding or non-breeding of birds in the Arctic is the variety of habitats over which a species will spread. I noticed this tendency in several species at Abisko, and a striking example was seen in the Temminck's stints of that area. For some ten days after I arrived in mid-June I studied a small colony of these miniature waders courting and making scrapes on a delta where a river flows into the extensive Lake Torne Träsk. Then came a few days just after midsummer of heavy rainstorms and the river, already carrying a large volume of melted snow, overwhelmed the little delta and the stints vanished. About a week later I was astonished to find other birds of this species incubating hard at least 2,000 ft. higher in the mountains.

Here they were occupying knolls of tussocky vegetation by a lake-side a long way above the tree line, and they must have begun to nest here almost before the snow had cleared away.

There was obviously an advantage to the species in not putting all its eggs in one habitat, and this kind of geographical dispersal of breeding energy must be a common phenomenon in the Arctic. In the case of predators the process may, perhaps, be aided by shifting breeding grounds. If prey are scarce in one area, a bird of prey like the rough-legged buzzard may move to another place even if it means exchanging tundra for birch woods. On the other hand, the long-tailed skuas already mentioned had apparently not done this.

These processes could well be elucidated by a yearly survey of a definite area of country. It should surely be not beyond the capacities of European universities to organise a sequence of expeditions between them, in which each year's addition to knowledge would increase out of proportion to the energy and finances expended. It would, furthermore, be a happy method of easing intercourse between countries.



A TEMMINCK'S STINT INCUBATING IN SWEDISH LAPLAND. The author found a colony of these miniature waders showing signs of nesting on a river delta and another at least 2,000 feet higher up in the mountains

DIANAS PAST AND PRESENT

Written by LADY APSLEY and Illustrated by LIONEL EDWARDS

ALL down the ages there have been people who, like Dr. Johnson and Mr. Gladstone on the subject of the female making speeches, have expressed surprise that women could ride a strong horse, and so uncommonly well. But it emerges from history that there have always been superb mistresses of the practice and technology of horsemanship, from the earliest Amazon, stirrup-less and nearly naked, to the modern hatless cigarette-smoking miss in turtle-necked sweater and jodhpurs, astride a man's saddle. The latter sight probably annoys the old hands to-day as much as it annoyed some courtiers at the time of Henri II of France to see Diane de Poitiers, Duchesse de Valentinois, ordering the horses, laying on the hounds and riding top of the royal hunt. But few realised the intense self-discipline, study, hard work and courage which eminence in the *chasse aux cerfs* entailed among the most jealous company at the most dazzling court on earth, and which are equally required in order to excel in the show-jumping ring, or to qualify for selection in an international combined training event to-day.

The Duchesse de Valentinois rose at three every morning—except Sunday—throughout the summer, went out stag-hunting at four, taking two packs of hounds in case one became tired, and returned to breakfast and a bath (of milk) at about eight. She rested in bed until ten, reading dispatches, then dressed superbly for the social round and the giving of audiences, and danced until late. But she always made time to see the chief royal huntsman in order to plan the next day's sport. She had learnt the whole business from her late husband, one of the greatest *veneurs* of the age. "I think," wrote the court gossip Brantôme, "that no lady was ever better on horseback and she was very lovely of face and figure and rode all the King's young stallions."

By the 16th century the great ladies of France, Italy, Spain and England almost all rode astride for hunting in a man's saddle, concealed as the fact might be in public by long draperies. The saddles of the day were cumbersome, but comfortably padded and with rolls in front and behind. The presence of the ladies in



"THERE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN SUPERB MISTRESSES OF HORSEMANSHIP, FROM THE EARLIEST AMAZON TO THE MODERN CIGARETTE-SMOKING MISS"

a glittering array of green and scarlet and gold was due to the influence of King Francis I, who considered himself a judge of "ladies, horses and hounds" and welcomed feminine company in the hunting-field as elsewhere.

Previously, women mostly rode pillion behind a relative or manservant, holding on to his belt for security. (One of the worst accusations against St. Joan of Arc was that she rode astride better than most men.) The way of riding for long considered correct for gentle-born females was sitting sideways on a padded seat, with both feet resting on a footboard, which must have been impossibly tiring at any pace out of a walk and extremely insecure. But probably this was the seat employed by Queen Elizabeth I.

Catherine de Medici, as the young wife of King Henri II, also made a great name for herself as a bold and skilful horsewoman at the French court, where hunting had the status of a serious state enterprise. Though she never acquired the knowledge of *vénérerie* of Diane de Poitiers, the future Queen Catherine may have invented the side-saddle. Brantôme says: "the Dauphiness was very good indeed on horseback and strong and held herself very gracefully having been the first who has put her leg through the roll on the front of the saddle so that it looked much more graceful and pleasing than the foot-board seat. The desire to show off her leg was one reason for the invention, because she had very nice ones, her calves being well formed, and she took pleasure in being well booted and in seeing that her *chausses* (stocking and breeches in one) were well put on, and not wrinkled. With this she wore a *manteau* of black velvet, a big apron of the same covering the front of the saddle, her left leg being tucked up under the said apron, gripping the saddle."

This is the first reference I have been able to find to the side-saddle seat dependent on a grip of pummels. It would appear that Catherine de Medici had a space scooped out in the padded roll on the arch of the saddle, so that she could grip with her right thigh. This would have been quite practicable as long as there was no jumping—and there was no jumping in the days when hunting the wild red stag was the ruling passion. Incidentally, the real leaping head, or lower pommel on a side-saddle, did not come in until much later in fox-hunting days, and is said to have been invented by Thomas Oldaker, huntsman to the 5th Lord Berkeley, who for a time

after a bad fall could ride only side-saddle. Catherine de Medici's garb as described by Brantôme can be seen in the Velazquez portraits of queens and infantas in the Prado galleries in Madrid. Queen Anne of Denmark, consort of James I, who was gay and charming and enjoyed hunting her own pack of beagles can be seen habited much the same in a picture of 1608. By then the sport of hunting had become very feminised, or perhaps one should say civilised. It had come a long way since the days when the Princess Anne (1460-1522), the formidable Regent of France, had hunted the dangerous wolves and wild boars as methodically and ruthlessly as she ruled her young step brother's kingdom (1483-89).

It is problematical when the riding-habit as such was introduced. The words as applied to the garment worn by ladies riding came to us, like much of our higher culture, civilisation and *haute couture*, from France. The French used the Latin *habitus* from *habere*, to have, hold, or in a reflective sense to be in a condition of mind or body that has become settled by custom or persistent usage. Hence the term is used of the external appearance of a plant or animal. The French themselves use *habitude* for many of the English senses, but with our love of shortening words we have long applied the word habit to dress, hence as a term for the particular form of garment adopted by the members of a religious order and for a lady's riding-dress.

The queens and infantas of Spain wore black when riding, and continued to do so long after the other courts of Europe had taken to more luxurious means of transport—litters, then coaches and carriages. Was it, perhaps, because of them and the memory of their pictures in the Prado that the English women who in the 18th century took to riding as a sport and a pleasure referred to their dark skirts and costumes as habits? The habit, of course, went with the side-saddle seat.

Miss Frances Stuart (La Belle Stuart), reputed to have been the original model for Britannia on our gold coinage, actually rode one of King Charles II's horses to victory on Newmarket Heath. Lady Mary Wortley Montagu (1621-76) hunted the royal stags in Richmond Park with her own pack, which was considered very strange. There is a delightful painting by John Wootton of Henrietta, Countess of Oxford (1694-1756), hunting her pack of harriers in 1716, wearing the tricorne hat and green plush coat all laced in gold, with a plain dark habit skirt and riding side-saddle. Juliana Ludford, of Ainsley Hall, Warwickshire, kept an interesting diary (1774-94) recording how she hunted with Lord Donegal and his hounds; and there was the famous Lady Salisbury, known to her friends as Old Sarum, who had a pack of harriers at Hatfield (1777-1812) and seems to have been the first woman to act in the field as a modern master of hounds, herself riding side-saddle, with her hunt servants and second



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CANADA



A RIDING-HABIT OF THE 1870s

horsemen magnificent in the blue and silver family livery.

Lucy Glitters rode in a neat habit, plainly made in a dark blue colour, with lace at the neck and a large hat with a feather. During the Regency the hunting-field was not considered "nice" for a lady, so most with any pretensions stayed at home, while the contemporaries of Mr. Jorrocks, Soapy Sponge, Facey Romford, Lords Scamperdale and Scattercash hunted when and where they pleased. Of course there were a few favoured women who got themselves invited where the many were not wanted, such as Miss Phoebe Higgs, deemed the original Lucy Glitters, who hunted with Squire Forester, of Willey, in Shropshire.

However, after Waterloo the influence of the Iron Duke made fox-hunting quite respectable and very fashionable for all ladies in the swim. The latter started first by driving in carriages and then, greatly daring, coming out riding to the meet—very correct-looking in dark blue or black habits, made in serge or frieze—not Melton cloth in those days. Little, short coats set off figures, and the sloppy hats gradually gave way to workmanlike and smart silk hats, draped with veils.

About 1850 many of the habit coats became ornamented with black silk braid, introduced through military connections with the Crimean War, when our troops returned with much-braided uniforms adopted from East European countries. And it must be remembered that many distinguished ladies had ridden daily with husbands and gentlemen friends round the military positions. Much is known of Miss Florence Nightingale and the wonderful nurses and nuns who accompanied her, but not much of the habited ladies who rode round the lines adding grace and charm to that devastating campaign. Miss Nightingale herself often drove in a delightful little pony carriage (still preserved), as she did not care for riding.

The long skirts of Victorian riding-habits were made of easily tearable materials, the first attempt at safety skirts. Undoubtedly, many a side-saddle rider had suffered severe injury from falls, and it was a nightmare to be caught up in the three-pronged pummels of the Victorian side-saddle. Gradually, too, the beribboned and befeathered hat, such as we see in the delightful picture by Sir Francis Grant of the 13-year-old Lady Sophia Pelham on her piebald pony in 1853, gave way to a neat bowler, or billycock hat. In 1854 Surtees published *Handley Cross*, intended, like most of his books, as a satire on the fashionable craze for

fox-hunting; and foreigners first began to portray John Bull in hunting attire.

The ill-fated Empress of Austria had great influence in making the hunting-field fashionable for the later Victorian ladies, married and single. Her Imperial Majesty constantly came to England (and once to Ireland) for the hunting season, and rode gracefully and well, with the famous "Bay" Middleton as pilot. Curiously, she carried a fan instead of a whip. She made the hunting-veil fashionable and was deemed to have an uncanny control over horses. As a matter of fact, she had spent years of practice in the famous Spanish riding-school in Vienna and was conversant with *dressage* and high school, then unknown in England.

From the late '70s wives and daughters of most hunting men took to riding to hounds, instead of merely riding or driving to the meet—social exercises which had hitherto been dangerous only to the hunting male in the distance, or when the carriage-horses chanced to be old hunters! Chaises and dog-carts were used to reach distant meets.

From this time, too, it became customary, if rather dashing, to wear some kind of tightish pantaloons trousers strapped under the instep, so that Miss Ermytrude was not so humiliated in the event of a fall by exposing petticoats to more than horrified spectators! However, many were conservative. For instance, Mrs. Poulett Somerset, daughter of the famous Jack Mytton and one of the hardest women to hounds in her day, always rode out hunting wearing a large brown straw hat with drooping ostrich feather and flowing veil! Lady Geraldine Somerset and many others continued to wear white embroidery-trimmed petticoats under their full and sweeping habit skirts, together with long button boots and the new pantaloons as worn in the Crimea.

The long habit skirts had to be looped up in the hand by their wearers as they gracefully mounted the steps of the hall, while a respectful groom, in the livery of the family—tall hat, cockade, shining brass or silver buttons, white leathers and top boots—who had attended them all day, walked the horses back to the stables. And, on the whole, what stables and what grooms! Victorian hunters and hacks, I fear, suffered from ignorance and dishonesty unless their master was an enthusiast, or at least had served in the cavalry. Air and hygiene were lacking in Victorian stables; horses stood racked up all day for fear of soiling their beautiful rugs, bound in the family colours; feeding was not understood, and horses had to make up in quantity what they lacked in quality.

In the late '80s the safety-apron skirt for use on side-saddles was introduced. I have always heard that it was invented, or at least first worn, by Lady Angela Forbes and Lady Augusta Fane, hunting in Leicestershire. This entailed breeches and boots, and was regarded as rather shocking—which did not prevent the sensible idea being quickly seized on to make a side-saddle reasonably safe.

The side-saddle seat remained fashionable throughout the Edwardian era, and until the end of the first World War a cross-saddle seat for a woman was almost a freak. In the '20s Miss Lexie Wilson, in Leicestershire, who hunted six days a week besides riding all sorts of horses, first showed what could be done when riding astride, and then the Hon. Mrs. Arthur Baillie, Mrs.

Charles Pym, Miss Judy Forwood and others. By 1939 half the women out hunting were riding astride and practically all the young girls.

Economic circumstances tended to prevent those who might have continued riding side-saddle from doing so after the second World War and the change was rapid, so that to-day few side-saddles are left in the hunting-field. The difficulty of getting good grooms—or indeed getting grooms at all—and the extra expense and difficulty occasioned by side-saddles made them prohibitive for the rising generation. Also, the modern type of well bred, better mannered and better schooled small hunter made riding astride much easier.


The side-saddle is certainly not democratic, and does not belong to the age of the ordinary woman, and, for the sake of the horse, it is probably just as well, speaking generally, that the art remains uncommon to-day. Yet everyone at a horse show crowds to watch the side-saddle class—if there is one—and there is genuine appreciation of the habits, hats, white waistcoats and veils of the different wearers. The older generation murmur: "After all there is nothing so good to look at as a good-looking woman on a side-saddle!" Incredulous daughters and nieces look doubtfully at long legs hanging on one side of a well-mannered show horse in a double bridle and at howdah-like seats, and their distance from the vital spot whence impulsion must be applied; and are unanimous that it is all completely contrary to the latest theories—which is true!

A habit, then, does not accord with the comfortable, easy-going ways of to-day. It is really an aristocratic garment, in that it cannot be turned out wholesale, but must be measured, cut and fitted individually, by experts who have given their talents to that end. Before the war the subtleties of making a side-saddle habit resided in a bare half-dozen establishments. To-day, it is said that this genius resides in the heads and hands of two elderly cutters. Anyhow, probably two makers are sufficient for the remaining devotees, such as the Duchess of Beaufort and Mrs. Archer-Houblon.

It is likely that the art will not entirely die out so long as the Queen chooses to ride side-saddle—even once a year—in full-dress habit to the Trooping the Colour on Horse Guards Parade. This is one of the finest ceremonials the modern world has to offer. Do all the coming generation of horsewomen appreciate what they owe to a Queen who attends racemeetings with real knowledge of horses, yet enjoys the humble sport of ratting with her terriers or riding for pleasure and exercise like thousands of her subjects?



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A SPOILT ALBINO SQUIRREL

Written and Illustrated by FRANCES PITT

IT is three years since dear old Nuts, an albino red squirrel from North Wales, died at the age of eight and a half, having had a full life that included a love affair with a handsome German squirrel from Berlin and the rearing of a family, the three members of which bore little resemblance to their snowy-white mother, but were dark grey-brown like their continental sire.

Through all these experiences Nuts went sedately on her way, a charming, delightful, spoilt lady, an autocrat perfectly determined to do what she liked how she liked and to brook interference from no one. She was a very Queen Victoria of squirrels. Her family grew up and had offspring, her grandchildren scampered around, but not one was in the least like the old dame, for far from being white they varied through shades of brown, red brown, grey brown and dark brown to almost black. For example *Avellana*—so called because her mother was Hazel and *Avellana* is the scientific designation of the hazel—now three years of age, is practically black; indeed she is the most melanistic red squirrel I have seen, though in winter her body fur becomes blue-grey, just the colour of a Persian cat. Handsome as she is in summer, she is now even more lovely, for her dark brush, ear tufts and extremities set off her blue jacket. She is a great beauty. Nutmeg, who died young in her second year, was bright copper-red on the body. In short, Nuts's grandchildren are and were a great credit to her, but the years passed and no replica of the old lady appeared.

In my book about my squirrels, I wrote of all this and ended by saying that I hoped the day might come when there would be "a reincarnation of the sprite in white." But I must confess as time went by my hopes dwindled. When Hazel and Billie, Nuts's children, were seven years old I wondered if they would go on breeding much longer. However, last April found them immersed once more in family affairs, young being born in May—on the 7th, to be precise.

Hazel is a good and experienced mother, with perfect trust in me, but I did not bother her for a day or two, when I ascertained that there were two babies. It was over a week before I lifted one from the nest and examined it. It was a male already with signs of a dark jacket, but it was small and feeble. (By the way, squirrel babies are born blind and callow, but the hair grows quickly.) I did not lift the second young one from the nest. The first had cried in the very shrill high voice of a tiny squirrel and the father was alarmed. He dashed up excitedly. Mother paid no heed to the squeals of her child but went on eating a nut; however, she might get worried if number two made a din, so I left it unseen and said that no doubt it was the long-awaited albino.

A few days later I did examine the second youngster and had the shock of my life: it was a bonny little female and it was white—Nuts II had arrived!

In actual fact Nuts II is not quite like her grandmother. The old squirrel was pure white and had deep red eyes. There was no trace of pigment about her. Little Nuts II, on the contrary, is shaded with cream on her hind quarters and the end portion of her tail does not look quite clean. She has the appearance of not being properly laundered. Her eyes are red, but it is a deeper, darker red than that of her grandmother. There is one particular in which she seems to be exactly like grandma—her hearing. The old lady was stone deaf and the young one appears to be the same; at any rate, she does not respond to sounds, though she is very quick to see and smell things. For example, if I enter a room without her seeing me, she continues with whatever business she has in hand despite any noise I may make. She does not respond to remarks, not even loud shouts, but when she turns her head and sees me she races to me at once. The other squirrels take prompt notice of sounds, even a low whisper. Deafness is to be found linked with albinism in other species. White cats with blue eyes can rarely,

if ever, hear anything. A very handsome white cat of my acquaintance which had one china blue eye and one normal green one was unable to hear. You could call "Puss! puss!" and he would not turn his head, but if he saw other cats running he came scampering with them.

Little Nuts was a lusty baby, though her brother was a poor little thing and soon faded away. She, however, never looked back, doing well and growing fast, at least for a juvenile squirrel. Young squirrels develop slowly; it is thirty or so days before they can see, and they take quite six months to grow up.

Hazel, as usual, was an exemplary mother and weaned her child only when it was absolutely necessary. Billie, whose full name, by the way, is William Rufus Cob Krupp, was a

window—a great treat—he chased her and with fury drove her back to their dwelling in the attic.

Poor Hazel got thinner and thinner; she had not cast her old winter coat and looked really badly. She was getting weak and could hardly jump up from the floor on to my hand. What could be the matter with her? Not old age, because red squirrels have lived with me to over ten years of age. Then, and then only, did I wake up to what was happening: the poor dear was being starved by her too devoted, too possessive, little devil of a mate! Billie was so anxious concerning her that he would not let her feed in peace, but was continually hunting her back into her sleeping box. Yes, starvation was her ailment, and it was a near thing. Had I not immediately arranged a divorce, on the



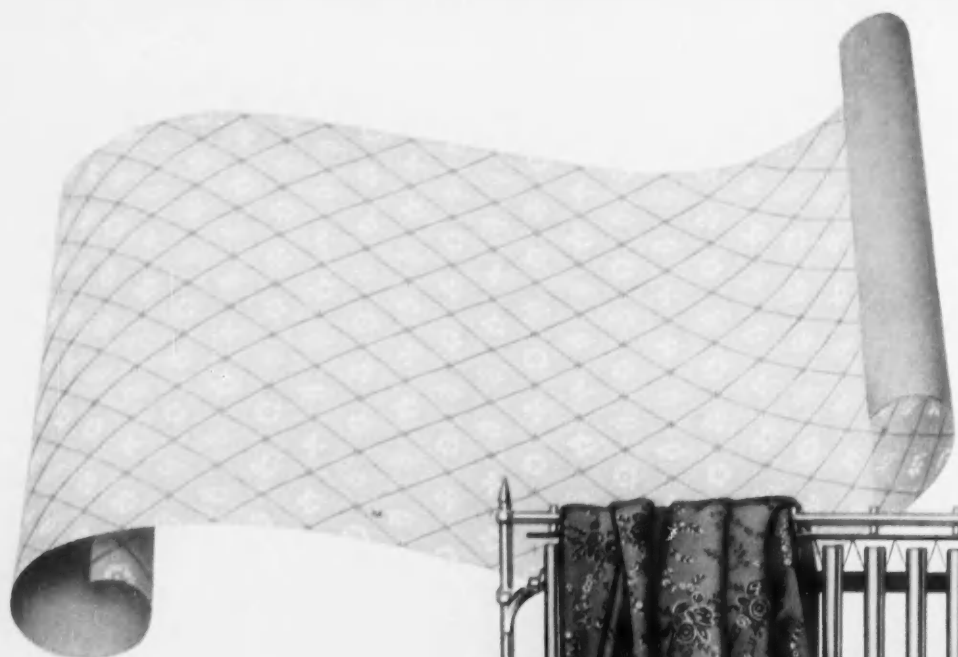
THE AUTHOR'S ALBINO SQUIRREL, MISS NUTS II, BETWEEN THREE AND FOUR MONTHS OLD. Like many other albinos she is deaf, but has good sight and sense of smell

devoted spouse and careful father. He kept guard over wife and little one and seemed to hate to lose sight of them, at any rate of his mate. Like all male squirrels he was jealous and possessive where his female was concerned. Considering that they were seven years old and had been a married couple for most of that time, his watchfulness was excessive. I did not at first realise the lengths to which he was going. It is true that I noticed Hazel was under the weather. I thought she was pulled down by her family efforts. I also noticed Billie would not allow her to come down from their attic home. When I left open the door of the top floor, where my squirrels have their rooms, to let the two have a scamper around the lower part of the house, Hazel had difficulty in getting away and when she did succeed in evading her spouse by racing down the stairs and into the sitting room to seek flies in the

grounds of jealousy and cruelty, she would soon have died.

Hazel and daughter were given a room to themselves and Billie was shut up to repent his sins in solitary confinement. Hazel recovered quite quickly. I died with all the good things I could think of, from cucumber to ripe pears, and with new green nuts, she soon grew strong and sleek in fresh fur. No longer pestered and chased by a too anxious male, with only her playful white daughter to tease her, she ate and ate and grew quite stout. Now she is completely her old self and able to jump to my hand from quite a distance. But the history of Hazel's matrimonial affairs is not finished, for Jimmy Brown has come on the scene.

Jimmy is a beautiful 3½-year-old buck of purest English blood, a lovely little red fellow, not so big as the lady, but very fetching with his smart ear tufts and full tail. Moreover, he



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NUTS II EATING NUTS WITH HER MOTHER, HAZEL. Nut-eating is an art which takes some time to master

has the most charming, playful ways. He was bred by friends of mine, his ancestors having come from the woods of Shropshire. The idea behind his coming to me was that he would be a nice young man for one of my juveniles. He is a nice young man all right, indeed as nice a squirrel as could be imagined, even when he is devastating my work-room, including ripping the labels off the boxes in which my negatives are filed, or wasting my time when I am supposed to be writing by skipping about and insisting on my playing with him. But I did not think Hazel would let her matronly eye wander in his direction. Perhaps after all we can find excuse for Billie being so strict with her, though even so he need not have nearly starved her to death. Anyhow, the position to-day is this: Jimmy Brown and Hazel get on well together. Jimmy spends quite a lot of time with her and seems much smitten, paying her fond attention and doing his best to win her love. I would let them live together, but Jimmy is occasionally aggressive towards the young white female and we cannot tolerate her being smacked, even if it would be good for her. It must be confessed that Miss Nuts II is a completely spoilt brat. She showed this when some new nuts arrived, large green cobs, and I gave her and her mother one each.

The red squirrel is an adept at dealing with nuts; it sits up on its hind legs, takes the nut in its forepaws, twiddles it around until it is in just the right position and gnaws the apex, and the shell falls apart in neat halves. The grey squirrel is not so skilful, breaking into a nut in a rough and ready manner, and juvenile reds have to practise some while before they acquire the art. Mrs. Davies, who brought up Old Nuts, tells me the squirrel was nearly twelve months old before she could deal with a nut in the proper manner. Little Miss Nuts is still in process of learning her trade and is slow over opening a nut.

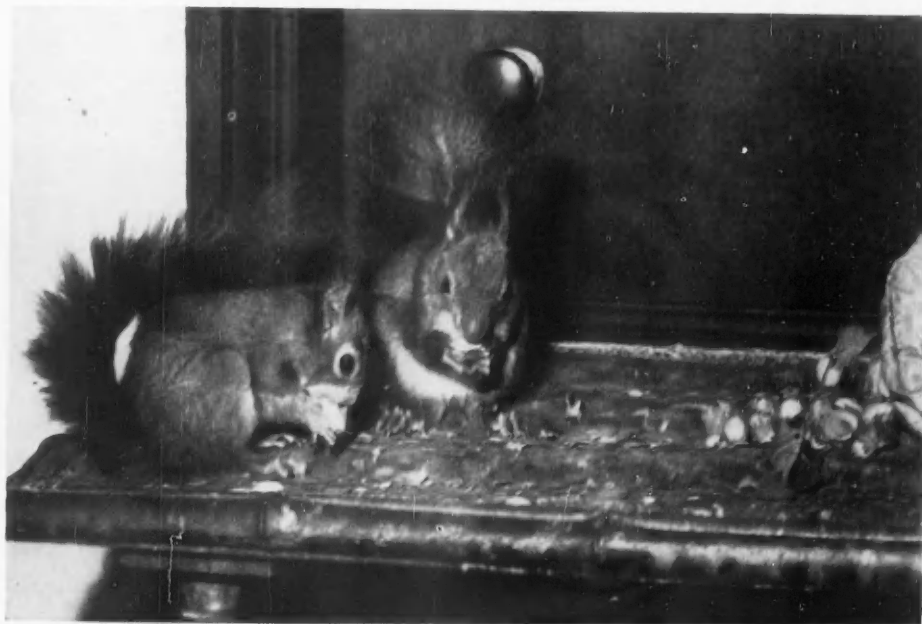
Hazel, however, is highly skilled, and when I gave her a cob, a very big nut, she had it shelled in no time; indeed, she had eaten it before her daughter got going. Young Nuts was still turning her nut round about, trying to gnaw first one end, then the other, when her mother looked about for nut number two. Hazel hopped up to her child and whisked

Nut's treasure from her hands. For a moment the young squirrel was too astonished to protest. Then, with a squeal of rage, she flung herself at her dam, boxing her ears and biting her nose. Never was a spoilt young lady in a greater fury and never was a mother more placidly indifferent to a daughter's tantrums. Hazel just turned her back on her offspring, split open the nut and ate it. To bring about peace, I found little Nuts another nut; she grabbed it and set to work on it, eventually gnawing a hole into it and extracting the contents.

The position at the time of writing is that young Nuts is growing up fast, being now a lovely "teenager," but by no means an adult squirrel. She is just getting a good coat, her tail is filling out and her ear tufts are coming. It will be another month or so before she is full grown, but it is obvious she will be a

fine lassie, indeed a great beauty, though she will always have a creamy tinge on her back and on the extremity of her tail, which will not detract from her charms.

I hope later on that Jimmy Brown will turn his eyes from the mature attractions of Hazel to the white youthful beauty of her daughter. Now that Hazel is restored to health and strength she should be able to keep her jealous spouse in his place. I am very sorry for Billie, his sins being entirely those that arise from a too loving devotion, and I hope to bring about a reconciliation, keeping a sharp eye on Hazel to see she does not get put upon. A husband and wife of seven years standing, perhaps two-thirds of a squirrel's lifetime, must not be lightly kept apart. Moreover, if they recement this alliance, a white brother for young Nuts may put in his appearance.



HAZEL (facing the camera) WITH A MALE SQUIRREL, JIMMY BROWN

BAINBRIDGE.



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A DAY TO REMEMBER

By ANTHONY BUXTON

"WHAT are you doing to-morrow, Monday? Why not fish the Junction Pool on the Beaully?" This from my host. Why not? It was my last day in Scotland and I had to catch the 5.15 p.m. train at Inverness. That meant leaving the river at 3 p.m. by car to pack and then drive to the station.

I was on the river at 10.30 a.m. sharp, and should like to have been there at 4 a.m. It had rained for the first time for weeks on Friday night, again most of Saturday, with high wind and heavy showers on Sunday, both in the day and at night. Consequently I arrived on the bank full of optimism; and steady and persistent optimism under all circumstances is the most important quality that a fisherman can possess. I put up (with one eye on the water and my hands trembling) a 50-year-old, 9-ft. trout rod that has been well blooded in this country, in Norway, in France, in Germany, and even in the Caucasus, and attached a cast I had tested and, since a scud of rain from black cloud was sweeping down the glen, a small Black Doctor, which, like me, looked keen

downstream. The fish, like a fool (most salmon are fools and some of them try to be dignified—a practice which needs instant checking) turned upstream and out to the other side of the current, and when he had bored his laborious way to a point well above me, I let him have it in the neck. He had now put the river on my side and it was two to one, 15-love and my service.

At this moment my host and a hospital nurse arrived in a car. He said: "Not a bad start, but I think that is about as much as that little rod will stand." The rod thought otherwise, and so presently did the salmon. The nurse ran down the bank saying, "Ooh! that is the first time I have ever seen a fish played." Soon the fish was wallowing about by our bank, and my nephew slipped a noose over his head, which happened to be nearer inshore than his tail, and that was that.

Not five yards farther down there was a sort of commotion in the water, but I suppose the fly was travelling too fast; anyhow, though his intentions were no doubt excellent, the fish missed the fly. Another few yards, when again came that glorious "Urrr" and that still more

trout, but shall never know, for he had just had time to spit out the fly. Then lunch in four gulps and one suck at a cider bottle.

After that somewhat hurried ceremony, I swapped water with my nephew, who soon hooked but, alas, lost a fish. I found the water that he had been fishing in the morning a trifle on the fast side and, seeing opposite some bushes on my bank some 300 yards downstream a lovely stretch of merry ripples, I fled down to it and, in order to avoid the branches of trees, which overhung and nearly dipped into the river, I waded out over a jumble of rocks and weed, in water none too shallow. The shade from the trees and bushes made everything under water invisible, and I stumbled about over unseen obstructions of all sorts and sizes.

Presently, just opposite the biggest trees and right in the main current, there came again that tell-tale "Whump." There was a proper splutteration on the surface and the reel fairly screamed. I thought that it would take too long and be too risky to pass the rod under those low-overhanging branches, so I barged my way ashore, clasped the line to the well-bent rod,



THE STRETCH OF THE RIVER BEAULY, IN INVERNESS-SHIRE, WHERE THE AUTHOR SPENT A MEMORABLE DAY SALMON-FISHING

and optimistic.

The most exciting water to my eye seemed to be the stretch just at and below the junction, where the combined stream from Glens Cannick and Affric meets the stream from Glen Fararr. It was rippling stuff and I judged the best lie to be just the other side of the main current, at and downstream of the point where the actual junction of waters occurred. The wind was strong downstream and towards my (the right) bank. There were tall bushes exactly upstream of me that clustered on the steep bank and overhung the water, but I risked them and loosed the Doctor.

All these circumstances made the casting and the fishing fine fun, and it was none too easy with so short a rod to mend the line outwards over the current, and so prevent the fly from travelling too fast for a fish to catch it.

I had not moved five yards down the bank when, right in the middle of the current—"Urrr," "Whump," and I was home. (The "Urrr" is meant to be the salmon and the "Whump" is the hook being driven into the salmon by me.) "Raise the tip of the rod and tighten the line?" Nonsense! Jerk it home with all the might of your right arm. I let out that sound, which anything that loves a hunt will fly to, and while the reel screamed I saw, out of the corner of my eye, my nephew coming at a lumbering gallop up the rocks from

satisfying "Whump." He was not so big as No. 1, and he was just as stupid in his manoeuvres, so that he took a very short time to come within range and get himself noosed, this time (as I understand is proper) round the tail.

The sun was now full out, but I did not bother to change the fly, and as it came skimming from the far side of the current into the main stream a lovely form rolled majestically out over the waves. I said to myself (if I said anything): "You will never get it, if you move as solemnly as that," but, although the pause seemed rather long, the "Whump" came at last, and so did the holloa. I think he was the biggest and the best fighter of the three, but my hackles were up and I was not going to waste time over anybody, whatever his weight, and he, too, came wallowing inshore puffing like a grampus, until the noose caught him at one end or the other, I can't remember which.

I looked at the rod; it was as merry as a cricket and plumb straight. Up and at them! The next arrival was a stale sea-trout of about 1½ lb.—and then I made a fool of myself, as I have often done before. I took a step forward as I waded, and forgot to pull in the line. A fish always takes it when you do that. There was a bit of a jerk, I tried to strike, and there shot into the air a fish with rich brown back and a bright yellow stomach, weighing, I judged, something between 3 and 4 lb.—I think a brown

and walked along the shore upstream, the fish following like a dog on a lead. They always do, so long as you do not stumble and keep the rod well bent. I found to my delight, between the bottom of the steep bank and the river's edge, good going over flat grass, with nothing to cause a stumble, and I just kept walking, and walking fast, for at least 100 yards; so did the salmon, as salmon will. Then I turned and ran in on him, reeling like mad, so that I soon had him on a short line and, after walking him again upstream, I raced below him and, with a sharp turn of the reel and a sweep of the rod downstream, persuaded him to bore his way upstream against a good strong current.

That finished him, and as I had not liked to disturb my nephew from his fishing, I unhitched the very inadequate net and somehow slipped it under the salmon's head and persuaded some of the rest of him to fall into it too. I knocked him on the head, screamed the "Whoop" of triumph and laid him on the flat grass. Then I looked at the net, and it collapsed, for the bootlace across its mouth had come unstuck in the struggle.

By the time I had retied the bootlace and carried the fish to join his fellows and had made a few more casts, the motor-car arrived, and I had to bolt without ever weighing any of the fish. What matter? The sport had been fast and furious and I was all aglow. So was that gallant little rod and the Black Doctor.

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CORRESPONDENCE

A PIG THAT GOES SHOOTING

SIR,—I enclose a photograph showing Bridget, a pig with unusual ideas. She is firmly convinced she is a dog. When, as a weaner, she was put into the piggery, she was scared and wild, jumping the barrier and escaping outside. She was allowed to live at large, though regularly fed.

Ultimately she became tame and devoted to her master. At his call she runs to meet him, frisking around and nuzzling his hand. When he goes off with his gun, at dusk, in the hope of getting a duck, Bridget follows him faithfully. When a partridge drive was in progress last month, it was amusing to see among the guns, most

that a happier fate may be found for her.—M. PARSONS (Miss), Radford, Emsay, Oxfordshire.

BUREAUCRATS AT WORK

SIR,—I was distressed to see the photograph of the little Regency town hall at Axbridge, in Somerset (October 20). It is admittedly not a building of any great architectural consequence, but it has a pleasant façade and what would be a pretty little porch if its lines were not ruined by an incongruous board advertising the offices of the Ministry of Labour and National Service. Why could not the legend be painted along the frieze, like the name of a shop? It would be just as noticeable and much easier on the eye. This kind of bureaucratic thoughtlessness—on a par with the dwarf walls, crazy paving and miserable shrubs beloved of municipal engineers—does much to spoil the beauty of our old country towns.—RAMSAY GORDON, S.W.3.

WALLING IN CAITHNESS

SIR,—Mrs. Margaret Jones's letter in your issue of November 10 reminded me of two other forms of walling to be seen in Caithness. There the natural rock is flagstone, or old red sandstone, which splits readily in the horizontal plane and makes excellent walling material. In one form of walling each stone runs through the breadth of the wall, as shown in my first photograph; in the other the single vertical slabs are used as shown in the second photograph, taken near the new atomic station at Dounreay. The same kind of stone has been used to pave many Scottish towns.—F. J. WYMER, Chislehurst, Kent.

AN OLD CUSTOM REVIVED

SIR,—In East Kent the hooden horse is again becoming quite well known. It is conjectured that this creature has come down through the centuries in the south-east corner of the country from the Dark Ages, when our ancestors worshipped the god Woden. It also may well belong to the mystic band connected with the Lords of Misrule or the man-animals, hobgoblins and sprites reputed to be abroad in the twelve days of Christmas. In any case, hooden horses were relatively common over the winter festival as far west as Godmersham until the turn of the century. They were accompanied by carol singers or handbell ringers collecting for themselves, and owed their existence to carters and wagoners. They hung in the stable for the rest of the year. With the coming of the automobile they disappeared. The hooden horse, however, is now again to be found in the Kent countryside with handbell ringers at Christmas collecting for more worthy causes and in the

summer sunshine with the East Kent Morris Men. It would be interesting to know whether any of the original specimens exists.—BARNETT FIELD, Westminster Bank House, Hythe, Kent.

[According to Christina Hole's *English Custom and Usage* (1941) the custom of masquerading with a hoodening horse was fairly widespread and took place at Christmas in some districts and on All Souls' Day or Eve in others. "Here we have a clear example," she says, "of a heathen custom grafted upon a later Christian one—the pagan horse, with its connections with ancient fertility rites and the horse-sacrifices of Romans and Norsemen... and the Christian Soulers commemorating the dead on All Souls' Day."—ED.]

TELEPATHY OR WHAT?

SIR,—When I was a child of five or so, about 45 years ago, I used to have a frequently recurring dream: I was being taken in a motor-car of the period, by a man in a motoring cap and goggles and a woman with a wide-brimmed hat and veil, along a country lane bordered with tall trees. It was a summer evening, and when we stopped at a farm gate I saw the evening light falling from the left upon an old stone building stretching away to the left, with a half-timbered projection built out from the upper part at the far end. The scene changed, and we were in a stone-built courtyard, in shadow. I was taken up a staircase with a wooden handrail and pushed into a large room, completely empty of furniture or carpets, and locked in there alone. I went over to the window and, looking down between the floor boards, I could see through the cracks the grass outside the walls far below (I was evidently inside the projection I had seen from the gate). At this point I invariably became so frightened that I woke up.

This dream at first recurred very frequently, perhaps two or three times a week. Then I had it less and less often, until it stopped altogether. By the time I was ten I had forgotten about it, and I did not give it a thought until I was about fifteen, when one rainy afternoon I was looking through some old volumes of *COUNTRY LIFE* in my school library at Winchester and, suddenly, came



A HOODEN OR HODENING HORSE IN KENT

See letter: An Old Custom Revived

across an illustrated article on Stokesay Castle, Shropshire, which I instantly recognised as the place of my dream, the recollection of which came flooding back very vividly. I turned a page, and there was a picture of the very room in which I had been imprisoned. It has puzzled me ever since. I had never been anywhere near Stokesay, and had never heard of it. I might conceivably have seen a picture of the place in a railway carriage, but that would not have shown the interior; and I made certain later that there was no picture or anything else at home that could have put the idea of the place into my head.

Since then I have often tried to explain the dream, and have always intended to pay a visit to Stokesay. But the opportunity never occurred until this summer, when I was staying with a friend near by. We went over one late afternoon, approaching the castle from the main road. I had not been prepared for the Elizabethan gatehouse, which did not come into my dream; but once through it I recognised the courtyard, and felt irresistibly that I had been there before. There is an outside staircase with a wooden handrail, leading to the solar at one end of the great hall, and I made for this, taking it for the staircase of my dream. But it did not feel right, nor did the solar or any of



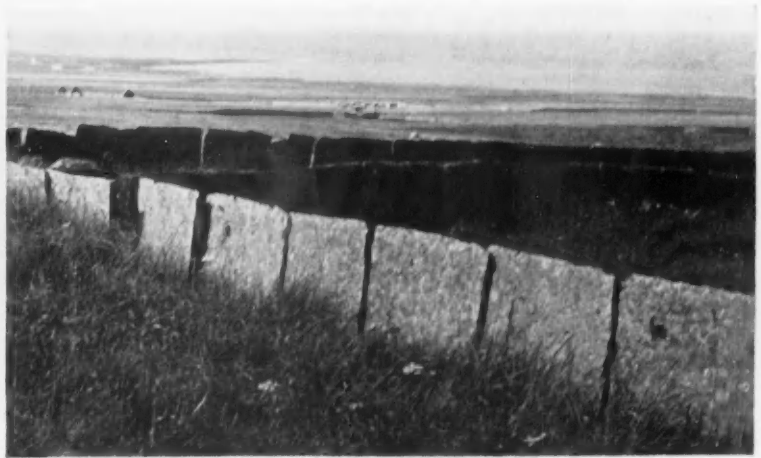
BRIDGET, A TAME PIG THAT ACCOMPANIES HER MASTER OUT SHOOTING AND DRIVING SHEEP

See letter: A Pig that Goes Shooting

of whom had the orthodox black Labrador at heel, one accompanied by a white pig.

Apart from the sporting side of life, Bridget takes an interest in sheepherding. On one occasion, when the ewes were pastured in her domain, she was seen to have collected them into an angle of the field, and appeared to be minding them there. Another time, she assisted the shepherd, who cornered his flock with Toby, the sheepdog, on one flank and Bridget, the pig, on the other.

Bridget's future is a matter for consideration among her friends, as no one likes the idea of meeting her at some later date in the form of rashers on the breakfast table. It is hoped



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See letter: Walling in Caithness

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the rooms opening off it remind me of the room of my dream, and I came out disappointed. We then went into the great hall, and my attention was at once attracted by an inside wooden staircase, leading to an upper room at the opposite end from the solar. As soon as I put my hand on the rail I recognised it by the feel as the one I had touched in my dream: it has a peculiar section which I do not remember to have encountered on any other handrail I have handled anywhere at any time in my life (it is like two tubes laid side by side, with a kind of groove between them), but it instantly felt familiar—a very odd sensation. I stopped outside the doorway at the top, and remarked to my companion that I was sure this was going to be the room where I was locked in, and that when I went over to the window there would be cracks in the floor boards through which I would be able to see grass far below. I entered, and at once recognised the room, which was entirely bare, as in my dream. I walked over to the window, which is the interior of a 17th-century half-timbered projection; and there were cracks in the boards, and I could see the grass in the dry moat below.

It then remained to discover the exterior view of the castle, and the farm gate that I had seen in my dream. So we took the car round to the other side of the castle, and there was the lane with the tall trees; and at the far end of the castle was what I can only call the identical gate. Facing it, I had exactly the view of the outside that I had seen in my dream; and it now occurred to me for the first time that the lighting also was right; it was a summer evening about seven o'clock, and the light was falling upon the outside from the left (the west) while the courtyard was in shadow; only in the dream it was later, nearer to dusk.

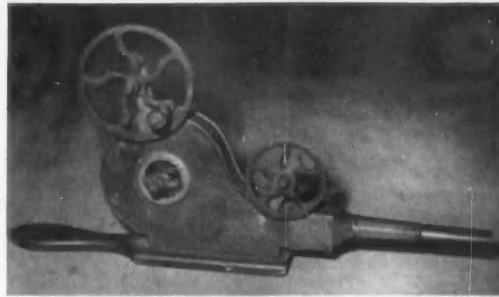
The whole experience was most eerie, and I have been quite unable to rationalise it. The only explanation I could think of was some kind of telepathy: perhaps, away back in the 1910s some child was actually kidnapped and locked in there, and succeeded in communicating his terror to me so vividly that I made the experience my own. Perhaps your readers could offer a solution.—DOUGLAS CARTER, *The Presbytery, 14, Westhill-road, Coventry.*

FAULTS IN ARAB BREEDING

From Lady Wentworth

SIR,—In all my experience I have never read quite such nonsense as that written by your correspondent W. Cowell in support of crooked legs in Arabs (October 27).

His (or her) letter contains, among its irrelevances, a false statement about myself. Apart from the



CONTRASTING EXAMPLES OF SCOTTISH MECHANICAL FIRE-BLOWERS. The second one can be pointed at any height

See letter: Mechanical Bellows

fact that I am not in the habit of breeding "really bad" horses (as proved by my stud records of world-wide supremacy in show-ring and in endurance racing), no stallions in my ownership are ever gelded, this practice being barred here.

The letter only proves how right I was in my warning to breeders and judges of the increasing danger of crooked hocks, which certainly will not be corrected by reducing standards to the lowest common denominator. We now have apparently forced one of the pro-zigzaggers into the open in defence of this defect as an integral attribute of the breed, which is exactly the danger I prophesied. Crooked hocks are never the fault of the breed and seldom referable to the immediate parentage, but often due to ignorant novice breeders allowing their foals to get rickets.

Bad workmen always blame their tools, and bad cooks can make a hash of the best cooking materials. If inexperienced people find it impossible to breed good legs, it is no proof that experts cannot.

Having been frustrated by the guard from boarding a train, an infuriated Scotsman without a railway ticket once gripped the guard of the departing train round the neck and hurled him back on to the platform saying: "If I mauna, ye shauna." This seems to be W. Cowell's attitude.

The Arab Horse Society publishes a standard of type and points which flatly contradicts the Cowell propaganda.—WENTWORTH, *Crabbet Arabian Stud, Poundhill, Crawley, Sussex.*

LAPWING NESTING ON SHINGLE

SIR,—The enclosed photographs illustrate an unusual nesting-site chosen by a lapwing—on a shingle beach at Cley, Norfolk. The lapwing's usual nesting territories include arable land, moors, heaths and marshes. This particular bird may have been disturbed from near-by arable land

where harrowing was in progress. The eggs hatched on June 4, a rather late date that suggests that this may have been a second clutch.—P. R. CLARKE, 34, Station-road, Sheringham, Norfolk.

MECHANICAL BELLOWES

From Lady Matland

SIR,—With reference to the photograph of a mechanical fire-blower reproduced in your issue of October 27, these are not uncommon in this part of the country. One, shown in my first photograph, is in the Angus folk museum and belonged to John Rae Kidd, fireman in S.S. *Forfarshire*. He was rescued by Grace Darling and her father when this ship was wrecked on the Farne Islands in 1828. It was presented by his grandson. Another blower, and by far the more useful, depicted in my other photograph, is on a cast iron stand, and can be pointed at any height on the fireplace. The cords have been removed on account of children playing with them.

I notice your correspondent says that his was made by a man called Buchanan. Does any of your readers know if these blowers are more often found in Scotland than in England? I have been told that they were sometimes made as apprentice pieces by young craftsmen on account of the variety of metals used.—JEAN H. MATLAND, *Burnside, Forfar, Angus.*

GRENOBLE WALNUT

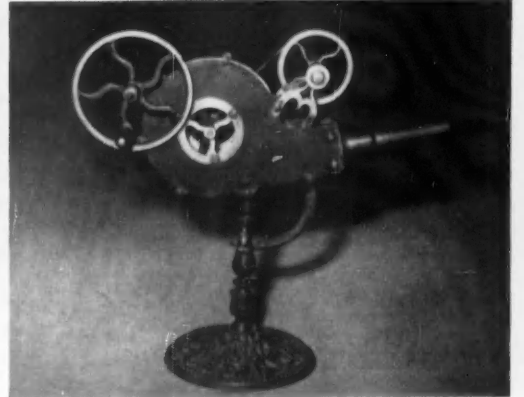
SIR,—May a Frenchwoman, born and bred in Grenoble, add her contribution to the correspondence about Grenoble walnut? Walnut trees are admittedly to be seen by the thousands in the lower valley of the Isère, that is, between Grenoble and Valence, particularly round Tullins, and were even more numerous, apparently, in the 18th and 19th centuries. But I should most certainly not call them forest trees; they grow in what can only be termed orchards, in orderly rows at respectable distance from one another, the reason being that they are grown

for the nut, the timber being almost a by-product, albeit a very valuable one.

The crop was originally intended to provide edible oil, and still does to a certain extent, although the development of cheap transport has made the competition of olive oil or ground-nut oil acute. In spite of that, walnut oil is still made, but, as it is highly flavoured and turns rancid within a relatively short time, it is no longer made commercially or on a large scale, but only for grower-amateurs. There used to be, and for all I know still is, a walnut-oil mill right in the middle of Grenoble—and does it not stink!

The availability of olive oil in the 19th century was a sad blow to growers, but they countered it by developing the sale of the nut in the shell, and have now recovered. (In fact, an American friend of mine—walnuts, as opposed to pecans, are apparently called English nuts in the U.S.A.—was once delighted to hear a commercial traveller tell a store-keeper: "The best English nuts are Grenoble nuts"!)

As regards the timber, it has never been used as a veneer in France, except since 1920 or thereabout on cheap stuff, the technique being either beyond the village craftsmen who used the wood, or kept for such valuable imported woods as mahogany worked by town furniture makers for more wealthy customers. Walnut has been used locally, since the 17th century or possibly earlier, as any other *bois fruitier*, that is, fruit tree felled when the crop ceases to be plentiful. The type and style of furniture being more or less similar throughout the country, the wood used is often a clue as to origin. No oak furniture, for instance, found in Grenoble or Valence antique shops has ever been made in Dauphiné. Local furniture is either very dark brown, with occasionally a reddish tinge, or, more seldom, much paler. I cannot recollect a pale walnut before the 18th century, but then I am no expert, and only go by the pieces



LAPWING ON HER NEST ON A NORFOLK SHINGLE BEACH, AND (right) HER EGGS

See letter: Lapwing Nesting on Shingle

CHAMPION OF THE 24-HOUR DAY



MR. G. H. COPE, Resident Clerk, P & O Steam Navigation Company

At 5.30 sharp most people go home—but not Mr. Cope. He clears his desk-top and collects his briefing for the night's vigil, three floors above the pavement in the City of London. Necessary? Absolutely—from six at night to nine in the morning Mr. Cope is the sole human link between home and the ships that pass in the night. His 'phone rings. His teleprinter chatters. If routine work is completed by ten o'clock he can go to bed. But he sleeps with both ears open. A ship leaves port to ride out a typhoon in the China Sea—Mr. Cope is the first to know. Another ship stands-by to accept a sick person from a small tanker—the 'phone by the bed brings the news.

At six in the morning Mr. Cope is up again putting the night's business in order. At 9.30 sharp he is back at his desk. Exacting work Mr. Cope? Of course, but you are a Resident Clerk in the P & O Company, with extra holidays and pay. You know that without men like yourself we couldn't sail our ships—and P & O ships are a Commonwealth lifeline.

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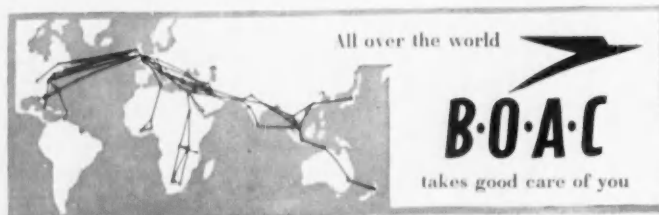
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my friends or I own. The heavy markings which appear to have attracted the attention and care of English veneer makers is considered a flaw, and burr is deemed useless, as it is liable to crack when used in the solid.

It is only with mass production in the 20th century that one finds hundreds of cheap suites in veneered walnut—shoddy and vulgar stuff which no real lover of furniture would touch. —G. ALLIX (Miss), 33, Erleigh-road, Reading, Berkshire.

FOR SCARING BIRDS AND ELEPHANTS

SIR,—I was interested to read Garth Christian's letter in your issue of July 14, in which he asks: "Can no enterprising inventor produce an economic device which will enable the commercial fruit-grower to protect his fruit without having to shoot birds?"

Some months ago we were troubled here in Malaya by elephants breaking down the fence round an area of new plantings and causing much damage to the young trees. In a planting magazine we saw an advertisement for a bird scarer made in Holland that it was claimed would also scare off elephants, so one was bought for experiment. It is a simple piece of apparatus that works off carbide gas, making a report similar to a rifle shot every thirty seconds. It uses carbide at the rate of about two pounds every day, and if cleaned regularly works very satisfactorily.

The bird scarer was placed in the middle of the field frequented by elephants and has since proved very successful. It keeps off not only elephants but monkeys and squirrels also. It was thought that the elephants would become used to the reports after a month or so, as they did to the electric fence, but after four months of use the bird scarer is still having the desired effect.

I enclose a photograph showing



A DEVICE FOR SCARING ELEPHANTS IN USE IN A FIELD IN MALAYA. It makes a report like a rifle shot every thirty seconds

See letter: For Scaring Birds and Elephants

one of the bird scarers in the field.

—A. J. B. MILLAR, Kuala Remen Rubber Estate, Kuantan, Pahang, Malaya.

In this country a device commonly used in orchards for scaring birds is a string impregnated with saltpetre that carries fireworks at irregular intervals. As the string burns these explode with a loud enough bang to frighten most birds. We also understand that a Norfolk fruit-grower has devised and used with success a system of electrically operated rattles that make noises that vary in length and—an equally important point—are separated by varying intervals.—Ed.]

SHOULD BUZZARDS BE DESTROYED?

SIR,—There was a statement in your issue of November 3 to the effect that the farmers of west Somerset were supporting a campaign by the farmers of Devon to legalise the shooting of the buzzard.

I do not know on what this statement was based, but, so far as this district is concerned, the Dulverton Branch of the National Farmers' Union, which represent most of the parishes along the Devon border from Dulverton northwards, discussed earlier this year the problem of winged vermin and, while anxious to intensify efforts against carrion crows, agreed that no action was called for against buzzards since there was no evidence of their harming stock.

Whether the absence of rabbits, owing to myxomatosis, will drive the buzzards to attack lambs or poultry and cause us to modify our opinion remains to be seen; but for the present this branch at all events is not seeking the destruction of the buzzard.—A. WAYMAN-JOYCE (Major-General), Chairman, Dulverton Branch N.F.U., Chibbet, Exford, near Minehead, Somerset.

[While we are glad to know that the Dulverton branch of the National

Farmers' Union is not for the present, at any rate, advocating the destruction of the buzzard, we must point out that the particular statement referred to in our correspondent's first paragraph was not made in COUNTRY LIFE.—Ed.]

BADGERS TO THE RESCUE

SIR,—I was interested to read Major Paget's letter (November 3) in support of badgers, and I can corroborate their usefulness to the Hunt from my own experience. During the first World War the Master of a famous south-country hunt was asked by the tenant of a large tract of rough country, which is now in my possession, to come over with his terriers as there were a number of dead foxes in the bracken. He told me that, after combing the area, they found 74 dead, mangy foxes. He said he thought they had, like elephants at the so-called cemetery, come there to die. At any rate, for some years afterwards hounds drew the area in vain. Then I turned down some badgers, which increased rapidly, and the foxes again appeared, so much so that in one season in the 1930s I knew of nine litters of cubs and on the same square mile of country the same number of badger setts. Badgers are wonderful housemaids. There is a small field of long, coarse grass here surrounded by bracken. Each night quantities of this grass are torn off and carried away for bedding and each day the old grass is pulled out of their setts.—SOUTH COUNTRYMAN, Weymouth, Dorset.

A VICTORIAN WOOD CARVER

SIR,—It is, I think, beyond doubt that the carving referred to in Mr. Schweder's letter in your issue of November 10 is by Thomas Wilkinson Wallis, who was born in Hull in 1821. After serving his apprenticeship in Hull he began business on his own



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account as a wood carver in Louth, Lincolnshire, in 1844.

He had several carvings in the Great Exhibition of 1851, and one of these was sent to Windsor for inspection at the request of the Prince Consort. He also exhibited at the Great Exhibition in 1862, and in 1865 a carving called *Wagtail and Fly* was bought by what Mr. Wallis in his autobiography refers to as the South Kensington Museum.

This autobiography, which was published in 1899, contains a list of his principal carvings from 1844 to 1874. One of his carvings was bought by public subscription for exhibition in Louth, and it is at present in the building formerly known as the Mechanics Institute, now the County Library, which also houses the Roubiliac bust of Newton about which you published a letter from me on May 9, 1952. The carving bought by Mr. Schweder is very similar both in subject-matter and in style to the carving which is in Louth. The autobiography refers to a carving of "Golden Plover, ivy and base" executed in 1873 or 1874 for Mr. Lamplough, of 9, Highbury-park, London, who paid £52 10s. for it. It seems possible that this is the work which Mr. Schweder now owns.

It was the last carving which Mr. R. W. Wallis did, as he then started off on a new career as a surveyor, and he was from 1876 to 1888 Clerk and Engineer to some local drainage commissioners, and from 1885 to 1893 was Borough Surveyor of Louth. In the town hall there is a good self-portrait



TOPIARY PEACOCK WITH ITS TAIL RESTING ON A COTTAGE ROOF IN SHROPSHIRE

See letter: *Peacock's Opportunism*

in oils. He died at Louth in 1903.—W. A. SLACK, 40, Westgate, Louth, Lincolnshire.

[We have also to thank several other correspondents who have written about Wallis and his work.—Ed.]

PEACOCK'S OPPORTUNISM

SIR.—Topiary is not particularly fashionable, but some of the single or double specimens to be observed in

front of roadside cottages are amusing, or beautiful, or both. The enclosed photograph was taken in Shropshire.

The thought occurs that there may be topiary purists who would object to a peacock's tail resting on an opportune roof. One might ask, in the terms of the latest lunacy of our time: Are U-peacocks self-supporting? Is opportunism of this kind definitely non-U?—D. J. LAMBOROUGH, Wilts.

LETTERS IN BRIEF

For Apple-Gathering.—Apropos of the letter *Ask for the Small Garden?* (November 10), I see each week one such tree. The owner tells me it is grown to obtain a long and light pole with which to pole down cider apples.—A. R., Somerton, Somerset.

Sedan Chairs.—At the beginning of this century several of the embassies in Constantinople still had sedan chairs (November 3), but I cannot be certain that they were in actual use. The particularly beautiful one of the Austrian Embassy was still there in 1923, when I stayed with my grandfather, then acting Italian High Commissioner, but, much to my chagrin, I was not allowed to use it. The embassy, much rebuilt, had once been the house of the Bailiff of Venice, and some of the contents appeared to be earlier than the Congress of Vienna.—SABINA C. LAMB, 2, Rosemount, Sidmouth, Devon.

Journals of a Yorkshire Parson.

Among some old books purchased in a sale I have 15 paper-covered journals, some written by the Rev. Joseph Ismay, one-time vicar of Mirfield in the county and diocese of York. They range from 1729 to 1776, and are interesting for their information of the life of the time and also of sundry journeys undertaken. If there are any descendants of the Rev. Joseph Ismay who would like to have these journals I shall be pleased to present them.—A. M. WADHAMS (Mrs.), c/o Miss Best, 19, Hatter-street, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk.

COUNTY GOLF

By BERNARD DARWIN

MY experience of golf has been, as I had till lately the vanity to think, if not peculiar, at any rate extensive. Now I have realised that there was at least one sad gap in it that it is assuredly much too late to remedy: I have never played in a county golf match. No doubt many another London golfer, for that is what I have essentially been, might say the same thing. As an almost venomous partisan I certainly do not lack county feeling: having been born in Kent, not very far from the Surrey border, I can as far as cricket is concerned muster a fine hatred for Surrey, but in golf I should indeed be ungrateful to my old friend Woking and many other pleasant Surrey courses if I entertained any such feelings. I am at best but a poor anæmic neutral.

I fully appreciated this for the first time the other day when I was kindly bidden as a guest to the golden jubilee dinner of the Worcestershire Golf Union. I had a very good dinner, I met a large number of old friends from that perhaps keenest part of golfing England, the Midlands, and I was filled, if only vicariously, with the county spirit. I have always had a feeling for Worcestershire, since I have been there annually, with no very lively hopes of success, but with an increasing love of its peace and quiet, to bathe in its hot salt water. I have been fond of it because part of the road to Wales, which I used to travel so regularly, ran within its borders. I also knew that it possessed some very good players, but I do not think I had done it full golfing justice.

Worcestershire is, I verily believe, one of the great golfing counties. It has fewer than thirty clubs, but in the county championship it has constantly been near the head of the list and on the last occasion was second only to the colossus of Yorkshire with goodness knows how many clubs in it. If anyone will look in the pages of the familiar red book at the list of Worcestershire Amateur Champions since 1906, he will come across a roll of distinguished names. The first of them was that fine player Frank Woolley, who died too young, so young that he is only a name to most people nowadays, though he played three years for England. I remember him first as a boy golfer at Aberdovey, with another from the Midlands, Frank Carr (killed in the first World War), and can testify how good they were. After him I come to that mighty hitter Percy Humphries and his brother,

Stanley Lunt, Dr. Tweddell and Eric Fiddian, doing a Box and Cox act with the championship for several years, Dr. Robb, who played for Scotland and ought, I fancy, to have played oftener, and J. S. Mitchley; these names, recurring more than once, and some of them several times apiece, make up a formidable list. I am not going to stick my neck out by saying that it is a better list than that of Worcestershire's near neighbours, Staffordshire with (to name two) Beddard and the perennial Stowe, and Warwickshire with its long unbeaten row of T. P. Perkins (he won nine times running), but it is at least a very good list, and I met some very good Worcestershire golfers at dinner whose names have never been on it.

Altogether I thought that county golf must be good and stimulating fun, and here was I, after heaven knows how many years of golf, who had never played in a county match. Yet I believe that at any rate a few years ago, I had played in more team matches of one sort or another than any one else alive. Moreover I have never even seen a county match. I feel that I should like to see Worcestershire play one of their near neighbours and friendly enemies and after my good dinner the least I could do would be to "root" for them. As to Lancashire v. Yorkshire, I should be positively afraid to watch that: someone who is not a partisan for one side or the other has no place on the battlefield when the two roses are engaged, or so at least I fancy. Incidentally Worcestershire, and I doubt not other counties too, put a second team in the field to play matches. There is no doubt at all about the Midland keenness and it is very inspiring.

Don't let me be deemed too ignorant. I know, for instance, that Surrey used to put, and perhaps still does put, a strong side in the field in the County Championship. The southern counties all have their championships, but, unless I am wronging them, they have not quite the fierce fighting team spirit in this respect that is to be found in the North and Midlands. Nor do I think this is in the least their fault. If it is a fault at all it is that of London, "the great wen" as fierce old Cobbett called it. It is such a monster that it eats up county boundaries; and the London golfer necessarily flits from flower to flower too often and too regularly to have any very ardent feeling for the county in which his course lies. One week-end he may be

at Sunningdale in Berkshire and the next at Woking or Addington or half a hundred others in Surrey. Moor Park may take him into Hertfordshire or Sandridge Park into Kent, or Fulwell into Middlesex, and so on. I take the first examples that come into my head, to show that it is hard for a London golfer to be a county patriot; if he is patriotic at all it is on behalf of his club.

Moreover these feelings are still his when he leaves London and goes to the sea. I think of those parties that used once to meet regularly on Friday evenings in winter at Cannon Street Station to go for seaside week-ends. There were the regulars of Sandwich, Deal, Littlestone and Rye; I was not a regular, but if I went to any of the four it was to Rye. But I did not feel a Sussex golfer as against Littlestone just over the border in my native and adored county of Kent. I was purely a Rye patriot. When later I joined the Royal St. George's Club I was a Sandwich patriot, too. I loved them both, as I still do, but county feeling plays no part in my affection; I love each for its own sake and I believe many London golfers would say the same. We do not think about counties in golf and I imagine we never shall.

This difference of outlook now and then creates little difficulties. I remember that a long time ago, when I was on an international selection committee, I used sometimes to suggest a university player and was met with the objection that he had done nothing for his county. I pointed out perhaps that he had not got a county but that Saturday after Saturday he played against strong London club teams, which provided at least as good a test as did county matches. The understanding between me and my fellow selectors from another part of England remained on this point imperfect. That was ages ago and I do not suppose for a moment there is any such feeling now; but there was then. I am not now saying that the London golfer ought suddenly to become a patriot of Surrey or Berkshire, or what not, for these sentiments cannot be artificially stimulated. I do say, however, that where there is this genuine county feeling it makes for good fun, good fellowship and good fighting, and provides an excellent training for young golfers. And with that I take off my hat once more to my Worcestershire friends, full of admiration for them as golfers and of gratitude to them as hosts.

Christmas time and any time
HUNTLEY & PALMERS
the first name you think of in biscuits



THE SKUNK DEFENDED

Written and Illustrated by H. MORTIMER BATTEN

SO far as we can trace the chronicle of this particular skunk, it began in spring when he took up his abode under old Conrad's cabin. Conrad lives half a mile down the lake away from what we call the village, and if he had not been a trained woodsman, he would never have known the skunk was there until late August. Every morning Conrad would stroll over to the little wooden hut opposite his cabin. Through its open door it commanded a wide view of the lake, and Conrad could sit there and watch the waterfowl and see what the trout were doing. Thus he would start his day, and this particular morning he was peacefully taking stock, when suddenly the skunk walked in and sat down at his feet.

Poor old Conrad dared not move a finger for fear of being skunked. Apparently the skunk was quite unaware of his presence, so there the two sat, actually touching each other, the skunk admiring the view as Conrad normally did, Conrad wishing to goodness it would go, but fearful of announcing himself. Reports vary as to how long they remained side by side. Some say that it was half the morning, others that, at all events, it was nearly an hour. Conrad dared not relight his pipe, scarcely even dared to breathe. The mosquitoes tortured him, and he had visions of remaining thus till sundown, but at length the skunk got up and strolled out, disappearing round the corner as suddenly as he had appeared.

So Conrad decided to be quit of his lodger. He did not wish to face a recurrence of his recent imprisonment, so he moistened an ounce or two of black powder, made it into a spit devil, and, assuring himself that Stripes was back under the cabin, lit it on the upwind side so that the fumes were carried under the floor. That was too much even for Stripes, and out he came, hurrying for once in his life and heading straight for the bush; once there he fired his gun as a farewell salute, and by way of paying back in similar coin.

Some hours after sundown that same day Stripes arrived at the Fishing Lodge, which is the hub of the village. Attached to it is the general store, and grouped around are the half dozen log cabins rented by fishermen during the warmer months. My own cabin stands a hundred yards back from the giddy whirl. It was the height of the fishing season. The sedge flies were hatching out by the million, and the big rainbows were taking them savagely. Consequently, all the cabins were occupied and every

room in the Lodge was full.

Stripes had frequently been that way to investigate the garbage bins by the kitchen door, but this evening he encountered Old Lady, the Lodge setter, who evidently regarded him as an undesirable and decided to put him off the property. Lady is no fool, and I wish I knew as much about the night prowlers as she does. What stories she could tell about bear and cougar, deer, coon and the many others who stray through the snake fence into the Lodge compound, moonlight or light! So she managed to hustle poor old Stripes off the scene without herself suffering the fearful consequences which made the whole atmosphere of the village almost unbreathable for an hour to come.

The Lodge was in the thick of it, and conversation in the lounge, where a few anglers were holding a late pow-wow, ceased like the closing of a door. Only one old man, whose olfactory cells had deteriorated, remained undisturbed, smiling triumphantly upon the discomfort of his companions. Opening the windows made matters worse, and those who had cars started up their engines and melted into the woods in the hope that after they had had a prow round the air would have cleared. One lady who had retired came down declaring that the house was on fire, and on the whole it was the biggest stir of the summer at peaceful Lac le Jeune.

I was late off the water, and as I passed the



STRIPES THE SKUNK NOSING ABOUT UNDER THE AUTHOR'S BIRD TABLE, BESIDE LAC LE JEUNE IN CANADA. The skunk "gassed" the neighbours, but was on excellent terms with the author, under whose cabin he lived

Lodge I saw the skunk (whose camouflage is a warning rather than a protective one) strolling without haste across the flower beds with Lady hard on his heels, but just at a safe range. Every few yards Stripes would turn, rear up his forelegs, and charge back to meet her, with body grotesquely upright, his bushy tail pointing straight at her, but before he was anywhere near Lady would be yards away, barking and whining hysterically between intervals of chasing her tail. So Stripes finally disappeared under Mary's cabin, Mary being the camp cook, whose abode stands just across the garden.

Now I knew that a family of weasels were already established under Mary's cabin. The young had been born there and almost daily I used to see them hunting the vicinity. So I wondered what kind of reception Stripes would get, and subsequent events seemed to suggest that he became involved in rather a rough-house. Mary heard a frightful rough-and-tumble under her floor, then the gas attack began to percolate through the boards and I saw her rush from the door with her bedding and some of her clothing under one arm. Straight across the flower beds she ran, at a gait midway between a walk and a canter, but, the house being full, she had no alternative but to tuck herself in under the kitchen staircase.

Thus Stripes introduced himself—one unfortunate incident after another—but I claim that he was not in the least to blame for any of it. Nevertheless, the fiat went forth that he was to be trapped, shot, poisoned, got rid of in some way, for it was out of the question to allow the peace of the guests to be disturbed by an animal with such effective methods of defence.

But the threats on his life were never carried out, for the simple reason that Stripes just disappeared. No one knew where he had gone, and no one cared so long as he kept away from the Lodge. We who live constantly in the woods have perhaps shorter memories than most men where the transgressions of wild



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animals are concerned. We may regard one or another as an undesirable, apt to make its presence felt in some unwelcome way any day or night, but so long as it leaves the peace undisturbed we have no desire to destroy it. So, with the departure of the guests, who are probably still telling the story, everyone forgot about old Stripes, save when, at some late hour, he might be seen rummaging in the garbage buckets, and he was welcome to all the garbage there was so long as he kept the safety catch on that gun of his.

Six weeks went by when one day I discovered that Stripes was thoroughly dug in and established under my cabin! Judging by the strength of his runways he had been there since the Lodge incident, yet neither breeze nor grunt had betrayed his presence. This backed my belief that the skunk is a perfect gentleman and a good neighbour. Leave him alone and he is no trouble to anyone. He always gives good warning of his intentions, allowing you plenty of time to withdraw, and if you ignore his warning you have only yourself to blame. Never before has any lodger shared my roof for so long without my even being aware of his presence.

During the peaceful days of autumn, when the white poplars along the lake margin assumed the most vivid gold I have ever seen, he remained unobtrusively with me, and I can

REBIRTH

*WHEN Love was born in Bethlehem
And knew a mortal Mother's kiss,
What wise men could foresee a world
So much in need of love as this?*

*When Peace lay in the lantern's light
Close-curl'd and lulled in infant sleep,
The shadowed centuries must have sigh'd
Till He should stir, and wake, and weep.*

*The eve has come, and Love and Peace
To-night wait for the hour of birth;
Our choice: to hew another Cross,
Or strew with palms the welcoming earth.*

MARGARET RHODES.

safely say that we came to respect each other even to the point of affection. We rarely met in the normal course because he never got up till the first hour of the day and retired before daybreak, but, as my illustrations show, I often waited for him with flashlamp and camera, and thus obtained a fairly comprehensive record of his meanderings. He never hurried, he rarely walked straight, yet during those dark hours before the dawn he would cover surprising distances, investigating every cabin, though they were now empty, visiting the Lodge, even going so far as the Forestry cabin, which is next door to Conrad's.

At Conrad's he evidently regarded himself unwelcome; he never forgave the old man for that spit devil and did not once after visit his cabin. Often, when the moon was bright, I have followed him some distance, and sometimes he would follow me a short way. If I flashed my electric torch straight in his eyes he would run straight towards me as though the light mesmerised him, and I would have to switch off and hop aside in double quick time; yet he completely ignored the photographic flash—too instantaneous, I suppose. Every morning a good breakfast awaited him. I had to poke it well under the floor away from the whisky jack; it was the guts of trout, the remains of my meals, anything going except vegetables and sweets, and so we might have become better acquaintances had it not been that it is a doubtful life insurance for any wild animal to establish too much faith in man. For the same reason I curtailed his meals as the cold weather approached, knowing that he would be entirely dependent on himself before long.

There was much to be done at the Lodge in those days: logs to be cut and stacked for house and cabins, the entire water system to be disconnected and drained, tons of ice to be cut for next fishing season, beaver dams to be dynamited where they were flooding the meadows, boats to be cleaned and stored, and the landing stage renovated. The bluebirds and humming birds had already vanished, and now came the millions of migrants flooding south, wild-fowl and waders of all kinds, ducks and geese in vast

armies, tiny warblers of many colours, and with their passing the eagles and ospreys bade us adieu, till at last the long wild farewell of the loons rang across the twilight stillness, and we felt their going most of all. So we were left with the faithful few, the chickadees and the whisky jacks, the ravens and the goshawks, but at times we now heard the hunting cry of wolves from across the great river, and an Indian cowboy reported one or two grizzlies down from the glaciers of the Coast Range. So it was near Christmas before the Lodge could be shut down and, with the store closed and the nearest neighbour thirty miles away, I too turned my face from Lac le Jeune and reluctantly sought the cities of the south.

Very cold and silent lay the great lake under its coating of snow, and at night-time only the wan, ghost voices of winter echoed through its woods, so I often wondered how old Stripes was faring.

OUR CHRISTMAS TREE

*WHAT winter birds, hurrying homeward
bound,
Through driving wind and rain,
Will hunt in vain
To-night,
For their tall familiar pine tree on the hill—*

*Their haven, sheltered deep
In shaggy plumes of branches, where they sleep
Soft breast, to feathered breast,
Jostling themselves into close, companionable rest,
Safe from the weather's wet, or chill
Of crystal frost;*

*How lost,
How affrighted if they found
Their tree alight
With pointed candle flame from top to ground!*

*Remembering those who knew it first and best,
Let's hope and pray
That they
Are harbouring, safe as we,
In the hushed protection of a neighbouring tree.*

M. BANNING THOMAS.

DECEMBER

BEST WISHES

The man who introduced Penny Post to England, Sir Rowland Hill, was born in the first week of December, 1795. There is no Penny Post now, but, as Christmas approaches, the nearest remaining approximation to bulk Penny Post for private individuals comes into its own. Christmas Cards, in envelopes unlicked and unsealed (so that the Postmaster-General can see whether we have cheated by including a handwritten "Love from the budgerigar as well!")—Christmas Cards go Printed Paper Rate for 1½d. The season of goodwill starts officially this month (though we ought to have sent off those parcels to our friends in the Pacific... oh, weeks ago). Have we remembered to buy Christmas Cards yet? Is it to be robins in the snow, cats playing fiddles or The Family at Frinton? Printers' giant rotaries are whirring day and night even now, trying to catch up with private orders from improvident people and, especially, firms. Envelopes too. There is no ordinary envelope known to science that blissfully allows its flap to be folded inside. But if we had to lick the envelope flaps as well as the stamps for all our Christmas Cards, the gummy taste on the tongue would last till turkey-time. Post early for Christmas.



The Midland Bank likes to share in the cheerfulness of the season (to say nothing of the virtuous feelings). It therefore takes this early opportunity to send its good wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all its many thousands of customers everywhere.

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THE CAMPS OF Y PIGWN

By GEOFFREY GRIGSON

IT is not difficult, on foot or by car, to reach the Roman encampments at Y Pigwn, and it is worth while, to a degree—though you may not for a moment recognise the camps when you get there. I have been unlucky and lucky, twice reaching this climax of a long thigh of the mountains when the cloudage was low, grey and rapid, and when the great surrounding panorama was half hidden. Yet such days fit the nervousness of Y Pigwn's history—or its conjectural history.

First of all, then, you take A40 up the Vale of Usk to Brecon, the gentleness and tameness of England left behind, every mile giving you more of the strong sense of Wales on left hand and right, the sense of earth's shoulders in black or grey or blue or violet. Twelve miles out of Brecon, and you are in Trecastle, where trees clutch at the *motte* (or so it appears to be) of a Norman castle above the road. It is here at Trecastle that you may go wrong. The turning left and upwards comes all of a sudden at the end of the village, and if you are not careful you find yourself still bowling along A40 to the noble roadside church of Llywel, which is the mother church of Trecastle, the church indeed of the huge mountain and moorland parish which contains Y Pigwn and stretches far over the north-western corner of the mountain barrier of South Wales.

Perhaps it is worth missing the turning to the left, so inconspicuous, so narrow and so steep, for a glimpse of the tall-towered Llywel Church. But then back you go, and up you climb out of the greenness of the valley, out of an agricultural world that still does not seem too alien—up and out on to the lid, or the roof top, of South Wales. An arrow sign on the one-inch map marks the steepness of the hill; and just past the arrow a lane opens to the right, climbing sternly for a while between gorse and bracken. The map tells you it is a Roman road.

This lane, this Roman road, hard and smooth despite its neglect, begins at 1,000 feet; just below 1,200 feet, it levels out, more or less; still firm, still without ruts or pot-holes, having brought you up and out into the wind upon this bulging shoulder or thigh, which, in fact, is Trecastle Mountain—Mynydd-bach Trecastell. Ahead, the road goes on and on, a ribbon laid between grass and rushes, a red ribbon showing the colour of the old red sandstone of which these blunt mountains are reared.

Actually the distance to Y Pigwn (and to the extra attraction of two little stone circles of the Bronze Age) is nearly 2½ miles. The Roman road passes some naked or dying conifers. It soon loses the fences or low hedges on either side; and every so often, since nothing obvious lies ahead in this extent of air and light and cloud, you may have a false alarm: an earthen scar suggests a fort, suggests you are there at last, a rise in the ground is too eagerly interpreted as something more than its mere self. After the first of these long miles, you suspect the whole business may be a sell. There may, after all, be nothing to find, despite wind and larks and plovers and curlews, despite the southward scene, fold upon fold of moor, which in its blue or grey tones may remind you of moorland Yorkshire or the wind-whipped country of the Roman Wall. Southward, in fact, you look across the upper valley of the Usk, far over a mediaeval hunting ground, the Fforest Fawr, the ancient Forest of Brecknock. Northward, the view (above and beyond A40, on that stretch from Trecastle and Llywel towards Llandovery) is not, at first, so enormous, so notable; but then the Roman road runs nearer the southern slopes of the thigh. Ahead, still nothing but wiry grass, still only rushes, and only the road, diminishing until it disappears alongside the blackness of a final ridge.

Watch now on the right for a stone—a large stone about the size and height of a kitchen table, green with moss, chrome with lichen, and ringed around its slaty blue mass with red soil. From here, your Y Pigwn is visible—is, in fact, this darker ridge exactly ahead of you on the skyline, to the right, and above (but only a little above), the continuing road. "Y Pigwn"

means only "the beacon"; the beacon being where you would expect to find it, on the jagged darkness of that final ridge, which turns out, when you come nearer, to be the loftiest swelling of the Trecastle Mountain; a swelling walled by ramparts, which enclose the beacon site and a triangulation point 1,353 feet above the sea.

As you approach, the camp, or the camps—because there are two of them—do not appear to have a neat Roman pattern, a neat profile; indeed, both on the moor and on the one-inch map the bounds of these camps of Y Pigwn have a degree of confusion. You come, not so much to grassy lines, as to a shining muddle of wet, thin stones. All along the south-eastern side of the camps quarrymen dug into rampart and hillside for roofing tiles. You need, really, a kestrel's view, or else the six-inch map, which will reveal two rectangles with rounded corners, one inside the other, the smaller of the rectangles askew. Go carefully over the grass, and you can trace some of the entrances into each rectangle, each entrance guarded by a *clavicula*, a "little key," a claw, a hooked continuation of one line of rampart across and behind the opening. The larger—and, perhaps, the earlier—camp covers just over 37 acres of the rising ground; the smaller camp, fitted inside, covers just over 25 acres.

Cross the lines and climb against the wind to the triangulation point in the middle of both camps, and what was undramatic acquires drama—a drama of isolation and position. Northward across the shadowed valley running down to Llandovery, small mountains rise as high and dark as this Mynydd-bach Trecastell. North-west, the ground slips down towards Llandovery and its vale, southward and south-east great slopes and ridges fold away to the greater heights of old red sandstone which are part of the long mountain wall above the valley fingers of colliery and factory sloping to the sea.

The height of Y Pigwn feels higher than it is, altogether; the loneliness, the sweep, the scale, are magnificent. The brown rushes of winter, the green rushes of summer bend and run to the incessant wind, a sheep's skull lies on the green moss, the leg bone of a pony lies half in and half out of a shallow patch of black water; and you may indulge now in thoughts of the Roman legionary, wondering whether he would survive or die and cursing his lice and his luck, and the wind, and the tough Silurian forefathers of the Welsh, as he stared round from Y Pigwn upon this Welsh frontier of the vast world of Rome.

There, at least, you have the explanation put forward for these camps of Y Pigwn—that



THE ROMAN CAMPS OF Y PIGWN, IN SOUTH WALES, FROM THE AIR

THE MOST
Satisfying
Gift OF ALL



fifty
SENIOR
SERVICE
CIGARETTES

CHRISTMAS PACKING

they were set up to contain a large force as the Romans thrust towards the Irish Sea. After the conquest of the British lowlands from the Channel to the Severn, the Romans could hardly tolerate a constant threat along their western flank, a constant danger of incursions from Wales. The flank was too long to seal as Scotland was sealed off by the Roman Wall. So Wales—in particular Silurian Wales in the South—had to be conquered, held and pacified.

From the *Annals* of Tacitus we know that between 47 A.D. and 52 A.D. P. Ostorius Scapula, governor of Britain, began to campaign against the Silures of South Wales—began that essential conquest which was not to be finished for 30 years or so, and which included—before Ostorius Scapula died, "worn out," as Tacitus remarks, "by the burden of his cares"—the famous defeat and capture of the valiant Caractacus. Tacitus wrote of soldiers left behind to build *praesidia* or strongholds among the Silures, which the Silures harassed and attacked with the cunning and stubbornness of guerilla war. Perhaps Y Pigwn was even the site of that attack upon the stronghold builders, which Tacitus mentions, in which the Prefect, eight centurions and many other ranks were killed.

These first legionaries to press into Wales were based on a legionary camp just outside Gloucester, their route of advance, I suppose, having been much that of the modern A40, up to and underneath Y Pigwn. In 75 A.D. this

Second Augustan Legion moved on to its advanced base at Caerleon, in Wales itself; and bit by bit new auxiliary forts, linked up by new roads, established the Roman power in a nervous frontierland.

Coming up the Vale of Usk along A40, just outside Brecon you will have passed below the fort of Y Gaer, which Sir Mortimer Wheeler excavated many years ago, proving it to have been built not long after the establishment of the base at Caerleon. Pressing still further along A40, when you come to Llandovery, you will have reached the unexcavated fort which was probably named Alabum or Loventinum and was probably established between 75 A.D. and 100 A.D. Y Gaer during its heyday (it seems not to have been garrisoned after 140 A.D., or thereabouts) was partly rebuilt in stone; and was held for a while, in this damp and distant air, by a cavalry squadron from the south-west of Spain.

By that time the field encampments at Y Pigwn were no doubt deserted to wind and rain; but the Roman road, trim and newly metalled, now passed the ramparts towards Llandovery, avoiding the risks of the valley down below. In the 18th century the road was repaired as a turnpike. In those days—indeed for long after, until 1891 at least—a public house called the *Black Cock* stood beside the road, at 1,100 feet, just around the bend from Y Pigwn, as it begins to descend towards Llandovery. Here in 1769 the road menders or makers unearthed a mile-

stone, which must have been set by the road between 258 A.D. and 267 A.D. It was inscribed "To the Emperor, Our Lord Marcus Cassianus Latinus Postumus, Pious, Fortunate, August."

That is the tale of Y Pigwn. The milestone has been lost, and the only other trace of Rome to be remarked is a short extra length of road diverging and going straight up to the camps, in the unaltered shape of a green *agger*, with a ditch on either side, each ditch an intermittent line of rushes. More than 1,000 years old when the Romans came to Y Pigwn, the two stone circles lie on the far side of this green *agger*, one small with large stones, one larger with small stones; but they are altogether trivial, altogether lost in this expanse of place and time. You have a feeling only of Rome and Wales—in fact, of Wales for a while interrupted by Rome and now herself once more.

Of course, until Y Pigwn is excavated no one will know for certain why a small camp and a large one were placed together on the hill; and why the larger camp was abandoned for the smaller one, or vice versa. Perhaps the larger perimeter was too difficult to defend. Also let me warn you that the Roman-road-cum-turnpike does not continue all the way as it began. A long spell of dry weather is needed before you can drive beyond Y Pigwn and then downhill, past the site of the Black Cock and the milestone, on the way to Llandovery—or Alabum.

Photograph: Cambridge University Collection: Crown copyright reserved.

THE MAN WITH THE CRAWLER

By DUDLEY HOYS

WHEN the timber firm agreed to buy about seven hundred of our trees, I wondered what methods they would use to get them away. These oaks and sycamores, spruce and larch were perching on slopes that might turn a lowlander rather breathless at the sight of them. The climbing intake walls of granite boulders presented another problem. It seemed that the men would have to make gaps galore.

The cold, still days of early spring echoed with the creaking and crashing of the trees. At this stage we expected no difficulty. In an unskilled fashion I helped to trim the branches from the fallen trunks. The woodsmen themselves, with their effortless rhythm, were working at an amazing speed. But that was understandable of experts who could split a sixpence placed on end. They swung and struck, and the great chips flew until the groove, deeper on one side than the other, was ready to take the steel wedge. A few bashes with a long hammer, and the giant fell exactly where it was wanted, its bushy head among the fire prepared to get rid of the debris. In a fortnight most of the spinneys were thinned, leaving the survivors that had been marked with a white spot by the planning authorities.

Then the men were called away to Scotland. They were needed for another spell in those miles of woodland wrecked by the great gale that sank the *Princess Victoria*. Standing alone and staring at what had been done, I tried to imagine how they would fetch all that prone bulk down to the dale road.

I thought of the wooden runways I had seen in Austria, trunks split to form a sort of tilted trough extending continuously down a mountainside and serving as a chute. It would be hardly worth their while here. Perhaps they might follow the system of the Forestry Commission, busy in Ennerdale. Walking the High Stile range one morning, I had almost gulped with excitement at the sight of slung trees rushing down a steel cable at 80 miles an hour. But this was on a big scale, and scarcely suited to our modest if steep acres.

The pulsing heat-wave seared us and the ground grew brick-hard. Conditions were ideal for moving the trees. Unluckily, Scotland still claimed the woodsmen. Not until October, after many a heavy downpour, did a truck with a crawler sitting on its back and a wood-wagon with a team of five come chugging up

the dale, the fells now shining with the bright copper of autumn bracken.

The oldest of the team was George, stiff, gnarled and stilly, crammed with the experience of 50 years of woodsmanship. Clearing a preliminary path up the slope, he had the strength and deadly precision of some beautiful machine. The adjective is deliberate, for skill of this kind has beauty. Every swing of his axe was effortless, and he did as much in an hour as I could achieve in a full day. Helping him, I felt like a small child playfully garnering wisps in the hayfield while powerful men raise half a hundredweight on their forks.

The next oldest drove the crawler. To describe him I am tempted to choose a word applied to wooden articles in general. He had the nature of treen. Both of them wore Army greatcoats colourless with age. And they performed miracles. On a greasy gradient where I stepped gingerly in fell-boots, the crawler might have been a real, live one under the guidance of a circus trainer. Sid, the driver, would hitch a couple of trunks to the chain and drag them at a closing angle, slithering between the standing trees, until they reached the cleared track. From there they came after him at gathering speed. Sometimes his hauled load caught up with him and hit the crawler with a sullen thump. It received no hurt, and Sid never even turned his head. That was typical. He disbelieved in unnecessary movement, and my shout of warning had been wasted.

They had, of course, to break one or two gaps in the wall bordering the dale field. The trunks were dragged through these and left lying side by side about 50 yards from the gateway. Meanwhile, the other three men had erected what they called the three-legs. These tall, tough poles, iron-shod at the tips, bore a grooved wheel and a running cable. When Sid had collected a sizeable load of timber, the great wood-wagon was driven in and stopped close to the three-legs. Sid hitched up one end of the cable to his crawler. The other end, armed with powerful pincers, was lowered over a tree. The man who fixed it judged the point of balance to a nicety. Sid backed, watching all the while like a veteran hawk. Up came the massive trunk in the air. The crawler edged forward a few feet, and the trunk lay on the wood-wagon. The whole operation had taken seventeen seconds.

With the load growing, one of the younger men had to shin up the pile of trunks to ensure accuracy of stacking. He stood balanced on the

slippery bark, another ton of oak suspended above his head, gave this a directing shove and flipped a hand-signal at Sid. Sid's response was an almost invisible nod. He manoeuvred the crawler. I kept telling myself: "If he makes a mistake, he'll crush his pal to pulp." But he made no mistake. He lowered the oak to the precise millimetre. I believe he could have cracked the shell of an egg if he had cared to show off. I also believe he would be angry at the wasted syllable if anybody called him Sidney.

The young man descended to the ground by lowering himself on the cable. The work went on, and I did the humbler jobs. There was, for instance, the infrequent need to fling a length of chain over a tree-end. This happened when a raised trunk, slightly off balance, sagged at the thick end. A chain looped over its tapering tip and linked to one of the trees already loaded would tauten and pull it straight.

We had more rain. The surface of the field deepened with juicy sludge. The three feet of the three-legs lost their level stance. They gave warning of a tendency to stir and skid under the strain of a ponderous trunk. Sid grunted once and issued orders. They were brief, not more than half a dozen words. The others gathered three massive logs and a length of chain. The three-legs was lifted, and the chain laid in the shape of a triangle underneath the three feet, with protruding links to spare. These were tautened around the logs. They dropped the pincers over yet another trunk, and Sid began to back the crawler slowly. As the strain increased, the triangle of chain was forced slightly further into the soft earth. Then the sinking of it stopped, for the angle of leverage was making the logs rise and keeping the whole contraption steady.

They have finished with that particular spinney, and I am cleaning up the minor fragments, preparatory to re-planting. Sid and his team have gone across to another "how," a rocky hummock skirted by whins and brackens and favoured as a resting place by buzzards. The side where the felled trees lie is so steep that I should hate to tackle it in leather-soled shoes. Sid's method is to haul them to the top and bring them down a comparatively gentle shoulder. When the crawler reared up under the tremendous strain, I saw him back a few inches and resume his haulage as if such incidents merited no more than a passing grunt,

VINTAGE REPORT: 1955

By EDMUND PENNING-ROWSELL

THE fine, hot summer in Britain has led wine-drinkers over here to prophesy an outstanding vintage on the Continent. In this they have not been alone. After the admittedly poor harvest of rain-sodden 1954, growers in France and Germany were disposed to be optimistic about the prospects for 1955. Even the late spring, which meant a delayed growth of the vines, failed to dismay them. For not only did a good year after a bad one seem a reasonable bet (a fairly accurate guess in post-war years, but not for pre-war vintages, to wit, the execrable years 1930 to 1932, and the poor crops from 1938 to 1942), but they needed a good vintage. With stocks of older wines running down, the wish was father to the thought.

And in Bordeaux it was father to a form of speculation which has caused some rather anxious talk in professional wine circles. It is said that Château Latour (perhaps the most consistent of the four *premiers crus* of Bordeaux) had sold 30 *tonneaux* of its 1955 wine before the vines were even in flower. This was nearly a

"futures." Although the lesser wines will not be anything like so dear (for one thing they can nearly always be shipped here in cask), they will certainly cost more than the already inflated 1953 prices. The 1955 wine of that excellent fifth-class growth Château Lynch Bages is twice the price of the 1953 vintage at the comparable time. At this rate Bordeaux may well lose the price advantage that they have long enjoyed over Burgundy.

It may be assumed from the post-harvest prices that the speculation has succeeded—that the 1955 vintage has turned out a success. In certain districts this is true, but how much of a success time alone will show. Bordeaux seems the most favoured region. If the fine mid-summer months had been followed by rather more rain than fell in September, the vintage might have been the greatest since 1929. As it is, 1955 will be a good year in Bordeaux, although quality may vary according to the time of the picking. In many properties more than the average amount of wine has been made;

Bordeaux. Britain had a finer summer than the Continent, which suffered from an unusual number of devastating storms. In Germany the maturing of the grapes was badly delayed, and by early October it was clear that the vintage would be small and of not more than ordinary quality. A late vintage is often a gamble owing to frost, and this year the vineyards have been badly damaged. Coming after the failure of 1954, the poor prospects for 1955 have led to a run on the already much-sought-after 1953s. Those who like German wines would be well advised to buy '53s and '52s without delay. If next year should turn out mediocre also, there will be a very big gap in fine vintages.

On the Côte d'Or and in the allied Beaujolais area fortunes have been more mixed. The Côte de Beaune suffered severely from hail. Fifty per cent. of the Pommard vineyards are said to have been devastated, and up to 30 per cent. of Beaune and Volnay. In the Beaujolais the commune of Fleurie was badly hit; Moulin-à-Vent suffered too. Other areas escaped;



THE VINEYARD OF CHATEAU LAFITE SHORTLY BEFORE THE VINTAGE. About 700 hogsheads of wine are made each year in this *premier cru*. (Right) THE CUVIER AT CHATEAU LAFITE. In the background are the fermenting vats

third of its average output. Other proprietors were quick to see the advantages for them in such a plan; not only could they secure cash in advance, but their vintage was assured, though the heavens—and especially the hail—should fall. A certain amount of early speculation in first growths has been common in Bordeaux in recent years; it has been one way for merchants to acquire them at comparatively reasonable prices. But hitherto the buying had started when the wine was made, not four or five months beforehand.

The result of this premature buying is, of course, higher prices. Whereas immediately after the last good vintage, in 1953, a hogshead—about 23 dozen bottles—of Château Lafite could be bought by a merchant for about £100, in the early summer of this year the unharvested 1955 wine cost about £120 a hogshead, and since the vintage the price has risen to not far short of £200. At this price a bottle of 1955 first-growth claret will cost us wine-drinkers little if any less than 30s. the moment it is available over here in 1958. As it will then need a minimum of five years in bottle, we shall be well into the 1960s before these very expensive wines "come home." How many of us can afford to make such a speculation—financial or vinous?

The Bordeaux growers and merchants may live to regret this artificial inflation of prices. For not only the leading growths have been implicated in this pre-vintage gamble in

Château Beychevelle has produced 200 *tonneaux* as against 133 last year, 145 in 1953, and 140 in 1952. Other growers report a 10 or 15 per cent. increase on last year. Such high output, if general, should help to ease prices, but a large crop may indicate a drop in quality.

A hot summer does not, as is often believed over here, necessarily imply a fine vintage. Too much sun thickens the grape skins, which give off an excess of tannin, and so the wine is hard. Too little rain means insufficiently swollen grapes. There are those in Bordeaux to-day who silently recall—but do not remind their customers—the very hot summers of 1921 and 1928. In the former year one of the most famous red wines of the century was made—Château Cheval Blanc, a wonderfully rich wine of extraordinary "size" and sweetness. But one great wine does not make a vintage, and most of the wines suffered from excess of heat. Only the Sauternes—notably Château d'Yquem—and the hocks triumphed in that torrid summer. The 1928s, wonderfully acclaimed at the time, have in many cases not yet "come round"; after nearly thirty years people are still arguing whether they will ever lose their residual hardness and soften into the superb wines expected at the time. A few have done so, but they are exceptions. Present methods of vinification designed to produce forward wines with less tannin may reduce this danger of over-firmness.

Other areas have had less success than

curiously enough, the Côte de Nuits was totally spared. The quality of the wines in the untouched area is likely to be good, but the quantity is rather less than average. There is no doubt that prices will be higher than in 1953. This will be a sound year for white burgundies.

To previous generations of wine-drinkers the quality of this year's vintage—or of last year's—would have been a matter of somewhat long-term interest. In those days the white wines would come along fairly soon, but the fine red wines might well rest three or even four years in cask, and then need at least an equal time in bottle before they were seriously considered for the table. If it were port, then the proclamation of a vintage would have interested our young sons rather than ourselves.

To-day it is different; owing to lack of mature stocks and changed methods of vinification wines are being drunk much younger. Indeed, I feel that necessity has combined with some specious propaganda to make us drink fine wines much too soon. With the aid of vintage charts the wine-drinking public is soon made aware of the fact that 1952, for example, is a good year. True enough, but that does not mean that it is ready for drinking. And 1945 was a fine year for claret, but these wines are not yet good drinking; yet much of it, alas, has already been consumed. At the other end of the scale there is Beaujolais. At a wine-growers' dinner held in Macon this autumn it was

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suggested that the 1954 wine on the table had actually been better a month or two earlier; but, of course, it was an indifferent year.

When one suggests that such-and-such a fine wine is not ready, the impression is sometimes given of being rather superior or wine-snobbish. "Good enough for us," is the implied reply. The criterion is of enjoyment, of the agreeability of a wine. Is this test commonly applied? Often, I think, not. "We had better give the Smiths a bottle of wine at dinner to-night." So, unless we have reserves of wine of some maturity, we dive into the cupboard under the stairs or dash down to the nearest grocer with a wine licence. At the table the wine is probably poured into small glasses that might just do for port, and it goes down with the no-doubt excellent food—without a word of comment from guests or hosts. Certainly this bottle added something to the atmosphere of the dinner; it was a compliment to the Smiths and on top of the pre-prandial sherry or cocktail it contributed to the spirit of well-being which inspired the party. But did anyone really enjoy the wine, I wonder. If it was claret, it was probably astringent and inky; if burgundy, strong and coarse. No wonder that for real pleasure many people confine themselves to white wine, for it usually has a freshness and sweetness which strike agreeably on the palate.

Of course, this over-early consumption is not our fault; nor is our wine supplier greatly to blame. Both of us have to make do with what is available. As the price of fine wines advances with each successful vintage, the wine merchant is placed in a growing difficulty; he cannot out of the proceeds of current sales purchase sufficient young wine. Either he must increase his



THE GRAPES IMMEDIATELY AFTER PICKING AT CHATEAU D'YQUEM. The shrivelled appearance of the grapes is owing to their being left on the vine until almost rotten (*pourriture noble*), thus producing rich luxurious Sauternes

margin on existing stocks to provide the extra resources or he must buy less of the new vintages. At the moment the credit squeeze prevents the third possibility, the one hitherto most widely adopted—to borrow money from the bank in order to buy one after another the splendid vintages that the post-war years have

afforded us. So, what with restricted credit at home and inflated wine prices abroad, we are likely to have to pay more for our wines in the future than in recent years.

Hitherto, however, English wine merchants, knowing that wine-drinking is a luxury, have been reluctant to raise their prices. Time and time again the price of a wine in Bordeaux two or three years old, or in Beaune or in Germany—before allowing for duty, freight or the merchant's profit—is higher than an original purchase on the British retail list. This cannot continue. Now is definitely the moment for the wine amateur to lay in what he can of the older post-war vintages. Careful buying can still secure 1949—and even 1947—red wines at prices equal to or lower than the identical wines of the 1952 and 1953 vintages (which, of course, lack the bottleage of the older wines). On the other hand, with 1955 prices likely to be even higher, it is well worth while acquiring the 1952s and 1953s while they still remain at "opening" prices. And the white wines repay early buying; any English-bottled white wine earlier than 1952 may well be past its best.

As for the 1955s, there is no need to worry about them yet. It is as well to remember that they will not be in bottle for a couple of years or so; and they are two years younger than their nearest rivals—the 1953s. The best tip seems to be to buy up to that vintage, and to keep one's powder dry and purse unopened as far as the imponderable but expensive wines of this year are concerned; that is what many of the leading experts are doing.

Photographs: French Government Tourist Office.

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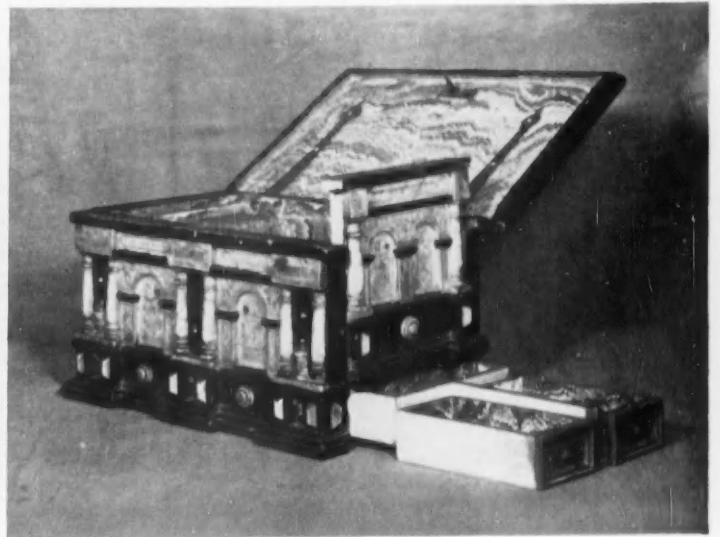
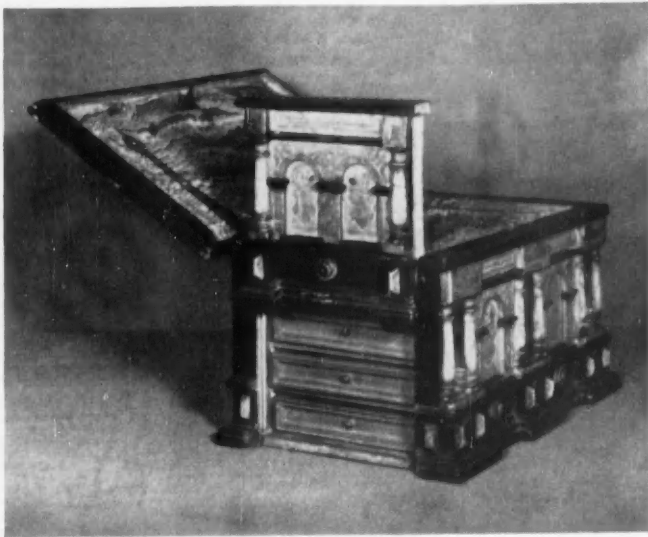


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THE SECRET DRAWER

By R. W. SYMONDS



1 and 2.—TWO VIEWS OF A 17th-CENTURY SOUTH GERMAN CASKET. Each end of the casket can be pulled up to disclose secret drawers. The right-hand illustration shows how the rail dividing the front drawers is attached to another secret drawer at the back

THE wish to have a secret place where we can put aside some intimate things hidden safely from the eyes of others is a human trait common to most of us. It may be an article of little value we are putting away, or a matter of no great secrecy we are hiding, but somehow we like to keep it to ourselves. Young children, left to themselves, soon find their own secret hiding-place in the house or garden, or at least they used to.

The secret drawer we probably owe to the Italian cabinet-maker, who, when he began to make cabinets with interiors filled with nests of drawers, thought of the idea of making some of the drawers private or secret so that the owner could hide in them more personal or precious things. The secret drawer also found a place in jewel-caskets and dressing-boxes, as well as in table-desks.

The cabinet, the casket and the table desk all had their origin in Italy, during the Renaissance one would suspect, or perhaps earlier. Later these articles came to be made in France, Spain, Flanders, Holland and Germany. This was in the natural order of things, for Italian culture was of an ancient lineage, being allied to that of the Mediterranean.

In England a piece of furniture with drawers was not made until long after such a piece had been in use in Italy. Cabinets, table-desks and caskets fitted with small boxes or "tills," as drawers were then called, were first made by an English coffee-maker during the reign of Henry VIII, and with the making of the drawer the secret drawer soon followed. Therefore, the latter must have been known to Englishmen of the 16th century, but it was not until cabinet-makers began to make veneered furniture in the reign of Charles II that secret drawers became an additional attraction and were asked for by people who wanted to buy a writing-cabinet or a scrutoir.

The design of secret drawers followed more or less the same pattern. When some of the drawers are shorter from back to front—in relation to

the length of the cabinet, desk or casket—then it indicates that there is a space behind, probably taken up by a secret compartment. Sometimes the front drawer has only to be taken out to reveal the secret one behind. In other cases it is not so simple, particularly when a secret drawer is attached to a strip of wood which, even when the front drawer is taken out, it is not easy to find. Sometimes this strip of wood forms the dividing partition between two of the front drawers (Fig. 2). At other times it is hidden in the side of the drawer opening.

In cabinets and scrutoirs there is usually a

central cupboard (Fig. 5) which appears to be a fixture until one presses a hidden spring which causes it to jump forward. When the cupboard is removed there is disclosed not only drawers at the back of the cabinet, but also drawers in the back of the cupboard. The spring of such a cupboard is usually made of wood.

Another common place for the fitting of secret drawers is in the well of a bureau. The camouflage is a good one, for the sides of the well appear to be perfectly solid but when they are pressed and pulled by the fingers one or two of the sides slide up and secret drawers are found behind.

The walnut veneered scrutoir illustrated in Fig. 3, is exceptional not only for the large number of its secret drawers, but also for the fine figuring of the veneer, which answers to Evelyn's description: "You shall find, when 'tis old, that the Wood is admirably figur'd and as it were marbl'd." These remarks were made by Evelyn about the English walnut tree.

The drawers in the well—which is at the back of the writing-space—are particularly ingenious, for until a thin board of walnut is removed the presence of a well is not suspected. When the well is found investigation will show that two of the sides can be lifted, disclosing drawers behind. Another interesting feature of the scrutoir is that in several of the drawers hidden behind the pigeon-holes in the frieze were found a large number of 19th-century letters and bills. One of the former was from Gladstone.

A surprising feature of the secret drawer in some old cabinets or caskets is its fresh and strangely new appearance. For instance, the 17th-century south German casket illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2, has drawers made of sycamore, which from its whiteness shows little sign of age or handling. The reason is, of course, that the wood has been enclosed for centuries and had not come into contact with the air or become soiled by the hand.

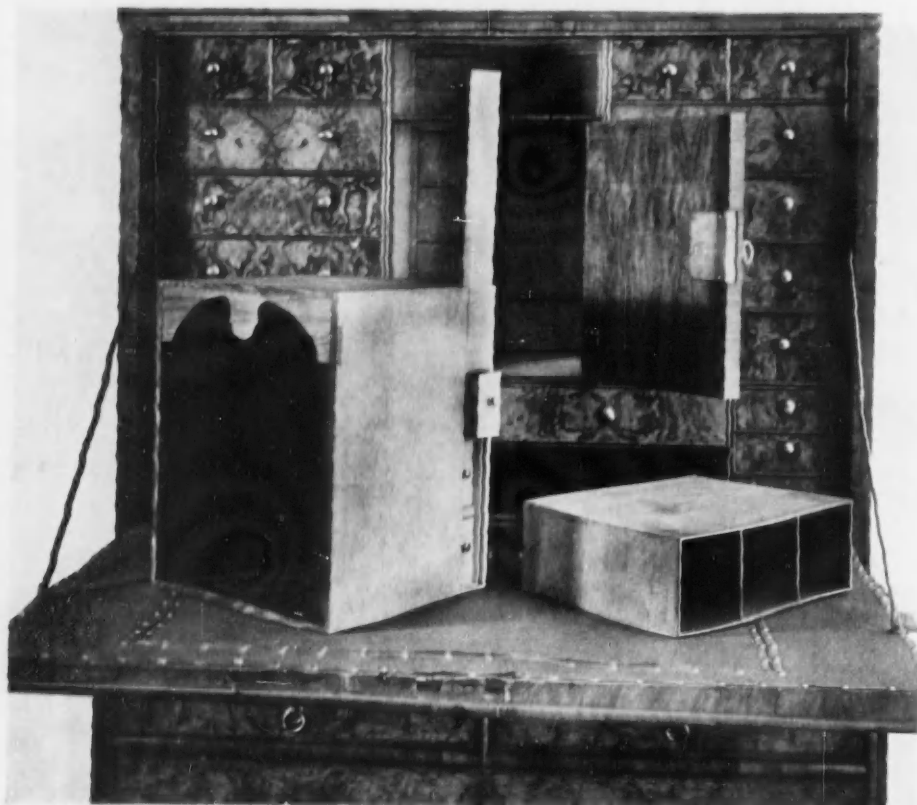
Often secret drawers have ribbons attached instead of handles, for in a drawer tightly



3.—LATE-17th-CENTURY SCRUTOIR, DECORATED WITH FINELY FIGURED WALNUT VENEER AND CONTAINING MANY SECRET DRAWERS. In the collection of the Hon. Sir Francis Hopwood



4.—DETAIL SHOWING THE PIGEON-HOLES CONCEALED BEHIND THE CORNICE OF THE SCRUTOIR. Behind the pigeon-holes are secret drawers



5.—THE CENTRAL PANEL AND THE THREE PIGEON-HOLES ABOVE IT REMOVED TO REVEAL SECRET DRAWERS

fitting into a carcass the ribbon does not take up any room. The red and green colours of such ribbons is nearly always fresh and unfaded. The same freshness is often seen at its best in the secret drawers of needlework dressing caskets of the 17th century. The drawers are lined inside and out with silk and the edges braided with silver lace. The freshness of the salmon pink and the silver comes as a delight to the eye. It has probably not changed in colour from the day it was made, three hundred years ago.

References to secret drawers in writing of the time are scarce, but the two items quoted here show that such drawers were used by our forbears for a definite purpose, and were not merely looked upon as a novelty to show to friends, in the way they are by furniture collectors of to-day. The earliest reference I have found is recorded in Pepys's diary under the date of January 8, 1663: "Upon the 'Change a great talke there was of one Mr Tryan, an old man, a merchant in Lyme-Streete, robbed last night (his man and mayde being gone out after he was a-bed) and gagged and robbed of £1,050 in money and about £4,000 in jewells, which he had in his house as security for money. It is believed by many circumstances that his man is guilty of confederacy, by their ready going to his secret till in his desk, wherein the key of his cash-chest lay."

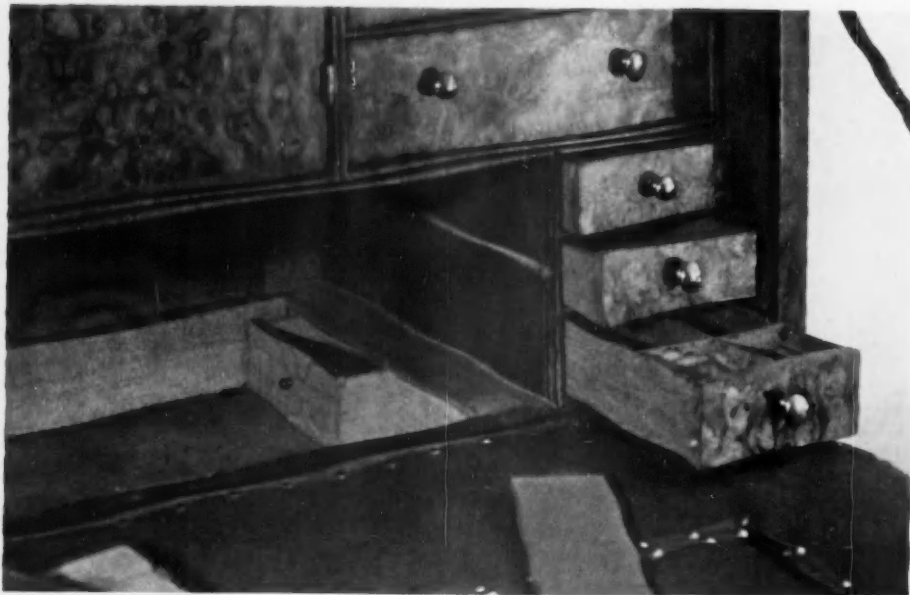
The diary later records that the man who did the robbery was afterwards hanged and Pepys stood for an hour on a cartwheel, for which he had paid a shilling, in order to see the execution.

The second reference is from the *Chester Chronicle* of May 7, 1755. "An old chest of drawers was put up to auction in this county [Yorkshire] a little while ago; when the man who bid for it said one of the drawers did not shut close; which made them take it out, and upon its not going back, they looked and found a private drawer, in which were between nine and ten thousand pounds in banknotes, and upon further examination, another drawer was found, in which was a purse embroidered with pearls; an old-fashioned ring was in the purse, and a paper written by a Lady Cook, who had a place under Queen Elizabeth; it says she was in the room when Lady Nottingham would have given the ring to the Queen, who was in a great passion, and flung it down; that Lady Cook took it up and offered to give it to the Queen the next day, who turned from it, and desired never to see it again. The ring and the purse are at Mr. Barlow's, the Mercer, who says he has seen the paper.

"As to the banknotes, it is supposed a lady who was sometimes out of her senses, and died about forty years ago, had put them there; as her friends, when she died, never could conceive what she had done with her money."

The fact that the notes, the ring and purse lay hidden for so long in their secret places and that in days when private drawers were common, indicates that such drawers were of real use, and people accordingly relied upon them for hiding valuable things. The chief value as a hiding-place lay in the fact that most people did not take the trouble to search a cabinet or bureau for secret drawers unless they had a reason to do so. On the other hand, the modern collector takes a two-foot rule and checks over the carcass to find out if there is any unexplained void.

In the last half of the 18th century the fitting of secret drawers appears to have declined. Pieces of furniture are, however, still to be found of this period, and also of the 19th century, which have small secret compartments hidden away in their carcass. I remember that when I was a little boy I had a Victorian table-desk made of rosewood with flush brass mounts. When one pulled up a partition that separated the ink and pen compartments, a spring was released and the front of the pen tray fell down, disclosing three shallow drawers. It seems that this type of Victorian table-desk was the last to be fitted with secret drawers. Perhaps there are readers of *COUNTRY LIFE*, however, who know of more recent types.



6.—DETAIL SHOWING THE WELL THAT IS DISCLOSED WHEN THE BOTTOM BOARD OF THE PIGEON-HOLE AT THE BASE OF THE SCRUTOIR IS REMOVED.

At each end of the well are secret drawers hidden by thin boards that can be pulled out



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THE hand of man is apparent everywhere in our landscape, though it is not always obvious. A hedge, a plantation, a field of ridge and furrow may now look perfectly natural, but at some time in the near or distant past man has been responsible for them. Except for the actual shape of the terrain and the rivers that traverse it, practically everything one sees in the English landscape is due to man, and the result is frequently beautiful and frequently lamentable. Whichever it is, most people take it for granted.

To stop one taking landscape for granted and to enable one to view it more intelligently and understandingly is the object of Hodder and Stoughton's *Making of the English Landscape* series, edited by Dr. W. G. Hoskins, who contributed the introductory volume. *Cornwall*, by W. G. V. Balchin, the first county volume in the series, has already been noticed in these columns. Now comes *Gloucestershire* (16s.), by H. P. R. Finberg.

Forest, Vale and Wold

Gloucestershire landscape is divided into three distinct areas of forest, vale and wold—the Forest of Dean, the Vale of Severn and the Cotswolds. Against this background the author considers the effects of prehistoric, Roman and Anglo-Saxon conquests and settlements, the growth of towns and industries, notably mining and cloth, the enclosures, country houses and their parks, the popularity of spas such as Cheltenham, the rise and decline of canals, the turnpike road and railway system, the petrol age—and even the atomic future. These are only a few of the factors that play their part in Gloucestershire landscape and are interestingly illuminated by Mr. Finberg. There are numerous maps and illustrations, but, unfortunately, not all the photographs are well reproduced.

Lungs for Lancashire

The growth of industrial Lancashire has been steadily followed by the growth of local resorts where the working population and their families can enjoy relaxation. There is much more to this than merely Blackpool, as Sydney Moorhouse shows in *Holiday Lancashire* (18s.), one of Robert Hale's Regional Books series. Southport, Fleetwood and Morecambe are only three of the other resorts which lie on the Lancashire coast and, like Blackpool, have a character all their own, which is matched by the historical and topographical interest of the countryside that lies inland of them. Out of what at first sight might seem unpromising material Mr. Moorhouse has made an entertaining book, in which the exuberant nature of Lancashire people is evident.

The Western Isles

As Mr. Moorhouse points out, it is not only inhabitants of Lancashire who frequent Blackpool and its sister towns, but people from all over the north of England and also from Scotland, particularly Glasgow. It is, perhaps, natural that the gregarious dwellers of a big city like Glasgow should prefer to spend their holidays in similar surroundings rather than in the Western Isles, some of which lie more or less on their doorstep. Something of the delights of the Western Isles is conveyed in *The Island Hills* (Hurst and Blackett, 18s.), a chatty book by Campbell Steven. There are 36 photographs and several maps by the author.

ALL ABOUT BRITISH BIRDS

MORE than half a century has passed since Alfred Newton compiled his classic *Dictionary of Birds* and the latest edition of George Montagu's *Ornithological Dictionary of British Birds* was published, and the

need, so far as British birds are concerned, for an additional work that would embody the discoveries made in the interval has for some time been apparent. *The Encyclopedia of British Birds*, edited by Ludwig Koch (The Waverley Book Company, £3 10s.), goes some way, but not all the way, towards meeting this need. It is, to quote its sub-title, "a book of reference on all matters of interest to the bird watcher and bird lover," and in the main is commendably comprehensive. One regrets, however, the absence of information about the outstanding ornithological authors and artists of the past; space could surely have been found in a work of such

table giving the English, Latin, French and German names of the birds.

The bulk of the text is made up of shortish paragraphs, lengthened here and there by interpolations by the Editor recounting some relevant experience of his own. Where the need arises, however, there are longer accounts, some of them amounting to full articles, by acknowledged authorities, on important aspects of bird study or behaviour. For instance, Sir Landsborough Thomson and A. J. Marshall write on migration, Julian Huxley discusses the protective colouring and James Fisher the classification and numbers of birds, David Lack gives a brief account of territorial

known, is thought to have been during Roman times. Again, *Bird Study*, the journal of the British Trust for Ornithology, is correctly described as a quarterly on pages 101 and 396, but as a monthly on page 331. And it is surely misleading to show photographs of the house-sparrow, the hedge-sparrow and the tree-sparrow side by side under the general heading of "sparrow" without pointing out, as the text does, that the hedge-sparrow does not belong to the sparrow family at all.

These, however, are minor blemishes. *The Encyclopedia of British Birds* in general bears the stamp of authority, and all students of birds should find it a useful work of reference. J. K. A.

LIFE IN INDIA

RICHARD LANNON'S *India* (Thames and Hudson, 42s.) is a fine collection of over 180 photographs illustrating all aspects of Indian life. Especially notable are the beautiful portrait studies of a wandering minstrel, a woman religious leader, a high-court judge turned ascetic and children asleep, playing in the street or gazing at a display of toys. Mr. Lannoy is more interested in the people than the art and architecture of India, but he gives pictures of Agra and Jaipur, of temple paintings and statues and popular murals. There is little of modern industrial India, but perhaps Mr. Lannoy has been wise to confine himself to the traditional aspects of this land of great beauty.

ELGAR, LISZT AND OTHERS

TWENTY-FIVE years or so ago, Professor Edward Dent was hotly attacked for describing Elgar's music as "too emotional and not free from vulgarity," and much of his chamber music in particular as being dry and academic. In those days Elgar was still alive, and many friends, including Bernard Shaw, rushed to his defence. Now Dr. Percy Young, in his critical biography *Elgar, O.M.* (Collins, 30s.), gives a vigorous stir to a controversy that most of us can see a little more objectively, but to which we are still too close to form a balanced judgement. His approach, on the whole, is both competent and fair-minded, but, although he is not blind to Elgar's obvious shortcomings, both as a composer and a man, he is inclined to see virtues where others might have difficulty in doing so. For instance, he declares roundly that the composer's literary culture left that of his contemporaries Parry and Stanford "far behind." In fact, anyone closely acquainted with his choral works must have been struck by the banality of the words and situations he would occasionally choose to set to music. This is not true, of course, of the oratorios, but it is true of too many of the cantatas and part-songs, and what seems to disturb many critics who readily accept Elgar's pre-eminence among English composers is that his music shows the same unsureness of judgement. He was a master of craftsmanship, but not of good taste. At his best he was unapproached by any of his contemporaries except Strauss and Sibelius, but it would not be surprising if the judgement of posterity comes closer to that of Professor Dent than to that of Dr. Young. Nevertheless, Dr. Young's book deserves to be read. It is a genuine contribution to musical scholarship.

Biography of Verdi

Verdi: The Man and His Music, by Carlo Gatti (Gollancz, 21s.) was first published in Italian in 1931, and this is the first English translation. The publishers claim that it is "the most complete and detailed of Verdi biographies"—a curious conjunction of adjectives, especially as there are



THE TEMPLE OF JAGGANNATH IN UDAIPUR, NORTH INDIA. Brightly-painted murals are a feature of Rajputana design. One of the photographs in *India*, by Richard Lannoy, reviewed on this page

scope for short paragraphs about, for example, Gilbert White, William McGilivray and Thomas Bewick.

Every Bird Described

Every British bird is described in the text, which runs to some 600 pages, and a very large number, including some notable rarities, are depicted in the 600 black-and-white illustrations, some of which, however, are marred by concessions to popular taste in the captions. In addition there are 42 colour plates, mostly by Eric Hosking and John Markham. The majority of these are good, but in a few, especially those of the garden warbler, the wood-pigeon and the ringed plover, the colours are far from true. The various maps and charts include a map denoting sanctuaries where birds are protected and a chart showing at what periods of the year different birds are in song. There is also a useful

behaviour and the Editor dilates upon bird song and the problems of recording it. The order of the paragraphs and articles throughout is alphabetical, and there is a good system of cross-references.

Introduction of the Pheasant

In so large a work it is, perhaps, too much to hope for complete accuracy and consistency. There are, in fact, a number of errors that will no doubt be corrected if the book goes into a second edition. For example, the wartime breeding-place of the black tern was in Sussex, not Essex; and whereas on page 308 it is stated that no authentic bones of the pheasant could be found in Romano-British deposits and that it is presumed to have been introduced into this country at about the time of the Norman Conquest, on page 417 one is told that the date of its introduction, though not

Beagling in Berkshire

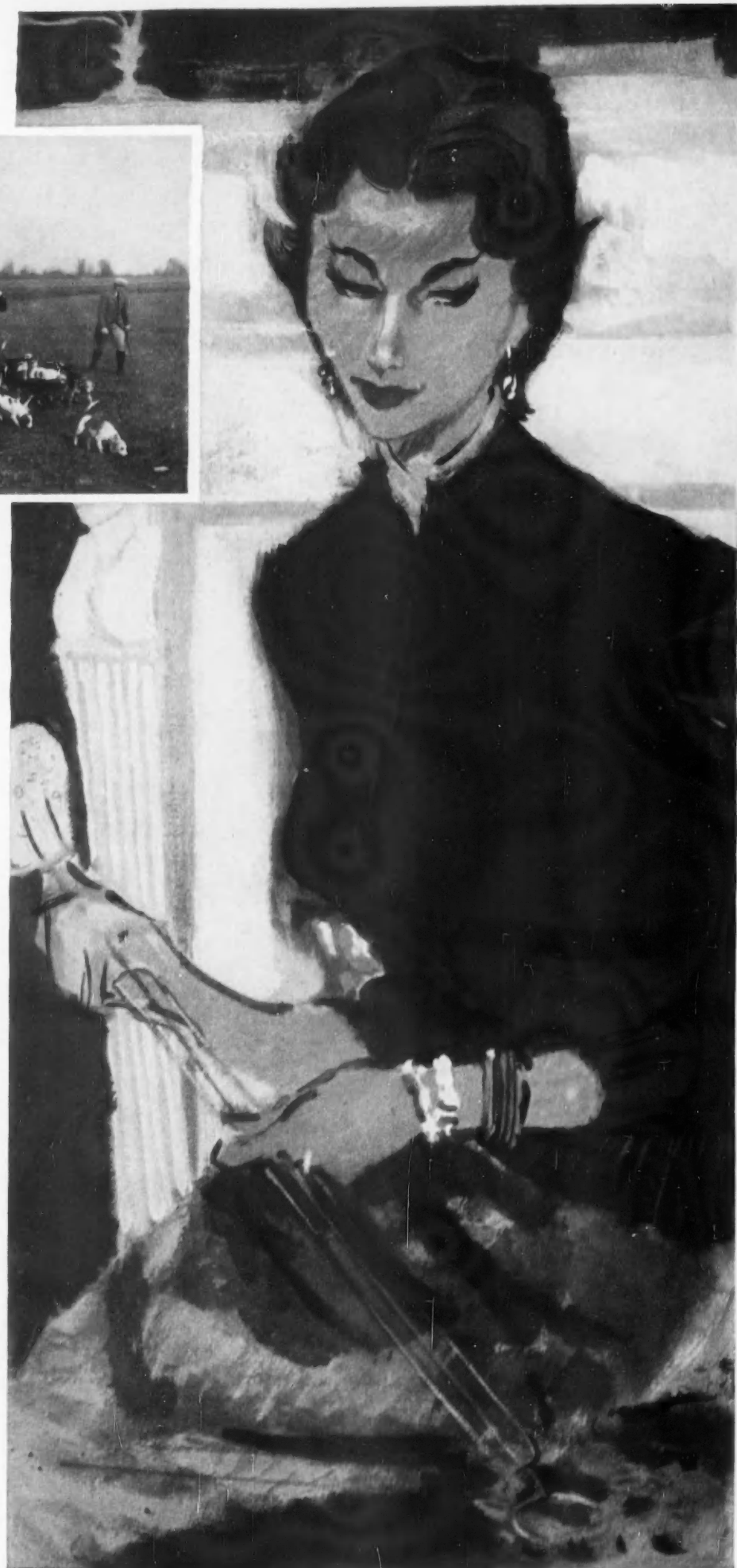
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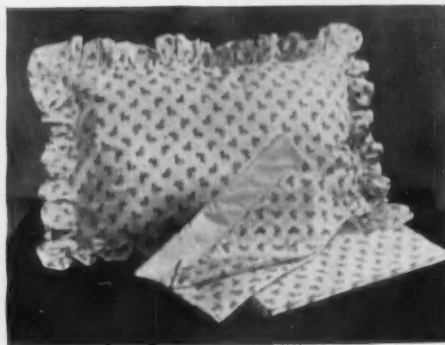
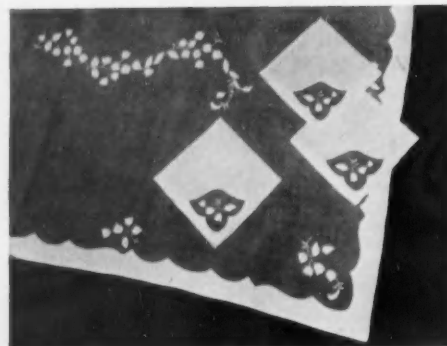
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more than a score biographies of the composer and nobody is likely to have read them all. It is, in fact, a pedestrian piece of work of little critical value. Sacheverell Sitwell's *Liszt* (Cassell, 30s.) is on a different level altogether. It was first published in 1934, and now appears with a new introduction, notes and illustrations. This is indeed biography at its best—lively, provocative, giving us not only the man himself but the brightly coloured background of the age in which he lived. No attempt is made to analyse the music, but enough is said about it to start many a new train of thought about a composer whose true stature has still to be established. As so much care has been taken to provide unfamiliar illustrations it is a pity that the photograph of Rossini described as "by Carajati in about 1865" is simply

and better than ever. There are now nearly 1,000 pages, and they are a musical education in themselves. To have piled up so much information simply about what has been recorded, and what is now available, was in all conscience a big enough task, but to have done it with such a wealth of biographical information, such critical skill, and such unflagging enthusiasm is as heroic an achievement as counting the letters in the Bible.

FROM HOSPITAL TO ALMSHOUSE

NOWADAYS, when one considers the complexities of modern hospital design, it is difficult to believe that all hospitals stem from the "spitals" of the Middle Ages, with their simple basic elements of hall and chapel. And in these days of a much-vaunted National Health Service, it is



TRINITY HOSPITAL, MILE END-ROAD, LONDON. An illustration from *The English Almshouse*, by W. H. Godfrey, reviewed on this page

a reversed copy of the print described in the first edition as "by Nadar, about 1867."

The Greatest Critic

Every music-lover will applaud the generous impulse that produced *Fanfare for Ernest Newman* (Arthur Barker, 21s.). Newman, the greatest of all the critics, reached his 87th birthday this week, and twelve of his colleagues have combined to pay this tribute to his services to art and letters over a period of 60 years or more. Only three of the essays, and a message from Dr. Albert Schweitzer, are about Newman himself. The rest, by Professor Gerald Abraham, Professor Dent, Professor Westrup, Martin Cooper, Francis Toye and others, wander between Wagner, Meyerbeer, Bizet and Donizetti. But the point is that the trumpets are sounding for a man who has done more than any other to direct the musical appreciation of two generations. May he inspire them on this side of Jordan for many years to come!

That astonishing compendium of everything connected with recorded music and speech, *The Record Guide*, by Edward Sackville-West, Desmond Shawe-Taylor and others (Collins, 35s.) appears in a new edition, fatter, fuller,

amusing to recall that the services given by the early hospitals were free. From these hospitals sprang also the almshouses which are still being built to-day. Their story, beginning in Saxon times, is told by W. H. Godfrey in *The English Almshouse* (Faber, 36s.), which has numerous plans and drawings and some eighty photographs.

From the examples described by Mr. Godfrey we see how the almshouse developed from a barn-like infirmary with a chapel at its east end into the typical courtyard arrangement of the 17th and 18th centuries, varying in scale from Sackville College, at East Grinstead, or Trinity Hospital in Mile End-road, to the more splendid architecture of Greenwich Hospital or Chelsea Hospital. Mediaeval craftsmen lavished their arts on almshouses, as on the churches to which they bore so great a resemblance, and the tradition was maintained well into the 18th century. It is as architecture that they are chiefly interesting, and it is with their architecture that Mr. Godfrey is concerned. One might have welcomed a short chapter on the treatment of the inmates, but it would be unfair to criticise the author on these grounds when so much else is provided in an admirably arranged, printed and produced book.



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SOLD A PUP

By COOMBE RICHARDS

SHE was a Scottie called Chippie. That, of course, was not the name that appeared on her pedigree, nor in fact was it the one we bestowed upon her when, 14 years ago and following a night of wailing sirens, gun-fire and flaming destruction, my wife brought her home in a paper carrier-bag, purchased out of pity from a bomb-damaged pet store.

On that particular morning, stretched on a long chair nursing an ankle injured in an argument with some incendiaries, I was sipping a gin and bitters when she was introduced to me. A pathetic, flea-ridden, tummy-distended, bewildered little bundle of black hair which promptly dipped a tiny pink tongue into my glass and solemnly looked at me as though to say "I know a good thing, too!"—and this at the age of only eight weeks! Is it to be wondered at that she was at once dubbed Ginnie? But as the months went by and she insinuated herself deeper and deeper into our lives and entwined our affections she somehow—I forget just why—became Chippie, and remained so to the end.

Of all the dogs we have owned, none has been her equal for gentleness, intelligence, companionship and breeding. She was a lady in every sense of the word whatever her background—in which we were not particularly interested. The vet., on examining her for the first time, pursed his lips and, tactfully it is true, hinted strongly that we had indeed been "sold a pup"—an opinion he was to change. We had, so he told us some months later, a real little winner should we care to show her; but we didn't. Chippie was just a beloved member of the family and as such was wholly sufficient.

Much of her early life was viewed from the vantage point of our daughter's cycle-handle-bar basket, where she seemed perfectly at home—if inclined to be critical of other dogs seen in the street. Then, with the advent of a new cocker spaniel, she took part in a certain



THE AUTHOR'S SCOTTIE, CHIPPIE, WATCHING HIM FISH. She would mark fish down and show where they had risen

amount of field training and learned to "sit" and walk to heel like a veteran. In shooting, however, she was never really interested, although she became adept at bolting rabbits from hedge-bottoms or gorse clumps; she would burrow her way into anything, but fishing proved her real joy in life. To her the sight of my rods being made ready was as exciting as were the guns to the spaniel, and a day by the river was for her a blissful occasion.

Standing a-quiver on the bank beside me or, if I were wading, up to her Plimsoll mark in the water (beyond which nothing would induce her to go), she would watch every cast from its beginning to end and "crow" with delight when a fish was hooked and brought to net or gaff. She also acquired the habit of marking fish down and would trot importantly along the bank to show me where one had risen; help which I grew to look for and appreciate. Dogs can often be a nuisance to an angler, but Chippie knew better; she was never other than a delightful and unobtrusive companion, liked by all with whom she came into contact. She had character and unbounding courage; she was without fear of any of her kind whatever their size or breed. Never in the least quarrelsome herself, she would, however, brook no interference or impertinence from anything, and more than once sent an Alsatian or some other large dog smartly about its business.

On one occasion, when she must have been about six years old, she did the spaniel an

invaluable service; one which I think points clearly the degree of intelligence she possessed.

Seated in my study writing one morning, I heard her scratching to open the door and a moment later found her at my knee "talking" excitedly. Believing her to be feeling neglected and in need of a little fussing, I fondled her for a moment and then bade her begone; but she would have none of it. "Be off!" I ordered. "Go find Linda!" (the spaniel). At the sound of her friend's name she scampered to the door and there, with her head cocked in my direction and ears sharply pricked, danced on her toes and crowed loudly. "Off!" I repeated, whereupon with a look of defiance she returned to my side rising on her hind legs (a habit picked up without any encouragement or teaching), to paw urgently as high in the air as she could reach. At last it dawned upon me that she really had something important to convey, so leaving my desk I moved to the door—to be led fussily, and with many a beseeching backward glance, to the hall and thence to the dining-room.

Amused at her antics and wondering what this was all about, I followed her into the room and up to the table. Beneath it, slobbering at the mouth and moaning distressfully, lay Linda, scratching feebly at her neck. It took me but a moment to discover the cause: a bone wedged so firmly across the back of her throat that a pair of wire snips was needed to cut and remove it. Chippie had certainly performed her daily good deed!

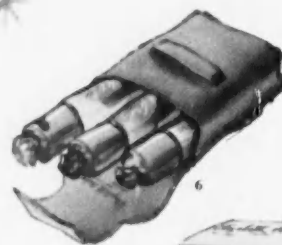
It is, I know, all too easy to wax sentimental over a pet, especially a dog, and attribute to it powers or attainments it does not and cannot possess, but during the long, yet all too short, years she was with us we became firmly convinced that Chippie was at least endowed with quite remarkable intelligence (she was never taught "tricks," for a performing dog seems to us unnatural) and that she understood perfectly much of what was said to her—just as we came to know the meaning of her strange and quite voluble vocabulary.

Faithful, gentle, affectionate and full of spirit to the last, she passed on quietly and quickly one night last year—leaving behind an unfillable gap. It is perhaps trite to borrow words and say, after Kipling, "Never give your heart to a dog." But we didn't; ours were just stolen whether we liked it or not.



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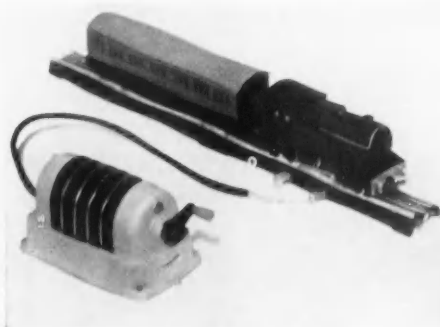
(Right) A note clip in gold constructed from an antique coin. The gold comfit box is shaped like a dice. Key ring with a four-leafed clover has a cabochon ruby centre (Cartier)

THE novelties of the year are always instantly produced in the shops to tempt present buyers, and certainly there are always friends and relations who love a gadget. This year's novelties include perfumed jewelled necklaces that are set with tiny plugs of plastic sponge and can be saturated in a favourite scent. Victorian musical fobs in gold metal and brilliants will play a gay jingle. Acrobatic toys have acquired uncanny skill. A journalistic game is called Scoop. A train set is worked by a handle and can be later adapted to electricity. Plastic trays clip on to a chair or car-seat for picnics. Magnetic jotters have been invented so that the pencil cannot be lost. A musical temple opens on each of the six sides to reveal six cocktail glasses. Travel lamps collapse into a ball. Fortune-telling linen tea-cloths are printed with instructions for reading the tea-leaves left in tea-cups or the lines of a hand.

Boxes of named varieties of apples or crystallised Cape gooseberries are suggested for the gourmet, and so is a china bowl holding crystallised fruits arranged to look like flowers. A pulveriser that will extract juice, as well as chop, slice and mince, will be received with joy by any housewife, and so will sets of small gaily-painted tiles that can be used as mats for cocktail glasses to prevent furniture from being stained. For a man



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(Right) The white and silver brocade purse folds over and is easy to hold. Matching white kid gloves are rimmed with silver (The White House)



The plum silk waste-paper basket with silken Chinese figures in relief can be folded flat for packing. The jam-pot cover will slip over a 1-lb. pot. The pointed, painted canister holds a detergent. The angels are in coloured paper, Byzantine or tinsel (Medici Galleries)

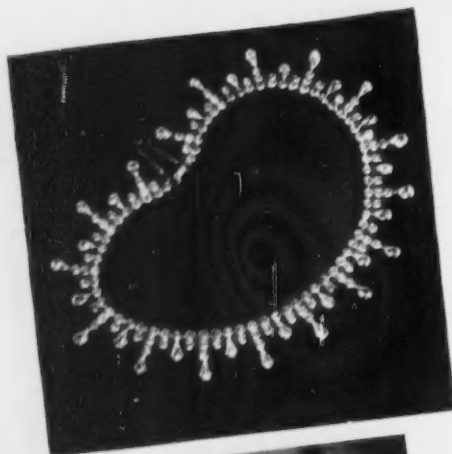


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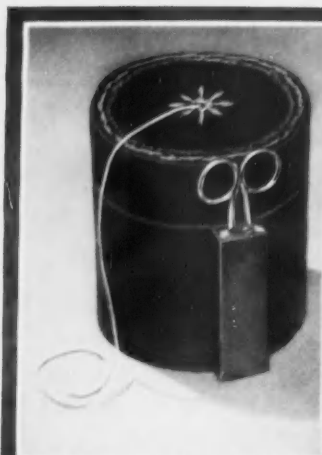
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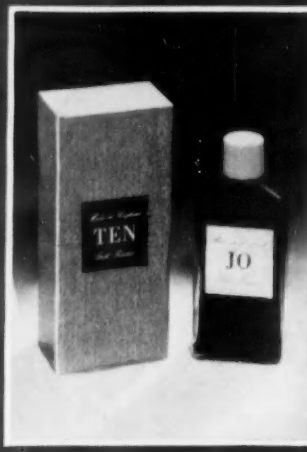
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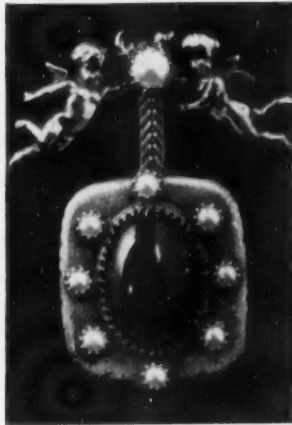
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(Right) Pigskin set of address book, memo book and cash book on a pigskin stand. The pigskin race card holder has several pockets and a gilt metal propelling pencil (Finnigans)



The amethyst fob below in gold metal studded with pearls holds a tiny musical box (Dior from Fortnum and Mason)



A hand-blocked linen knitting apron for a child has three balls of gay wool and knitting needles (Medici Galleries). The crackle nylon waist petticoat holds out a bouffant party skirt (Fortnum and Mason)

who travels a lot, a leather clothes brush that contains two packs of cards as well as bridge markers is suggested.

Apart from those of one's family and close friends there are always a host of presents to be given to the people who help to make up the pattern of one's daily life. Suggestions from this year's group are: the wide fleecy mohair stoles that can be bought in lovely deep or bright shades, the gossamer mesh and heavy lace stretch nylon stockings, or the nylons packed in gift boxes that are printed with readings from the stars. Handbags in coach hide and unlined are quite inexpensive as well as being good-looking; shapes are interesting—those of satchels, kitbags or small books. Elegant satin evening bags are oblong-shaped and decorated with a single line of rhinestones. Similar ones in calf are smart for day, and so are the outsize purses in kid that can be carried in a bucket bag or shopping bag, or in the hand.

Choice flagons of Madeira are put up in attractive flat wicker baskets with handles and liqueur chocolates in charming felt-covered boxes. Soap looks like candies when it is shaped into heart pats and flower-decked, and sold in decorative pink and blue boxes. For the children there are space ships, poodles and other pets, all in soap. Packings of household goods are ingenious; guest towels are folded to look like crackers and arranged like a box of crackers. Sets of candy striped sheets and frilled pillow cases in fine cotton packed in transparent plastic covers look as frivolous as possible.

The current rage among small boys and girls is for scooters. A toy loom is an excellent present for a schoolgirl, as on it she can really weave her doll's clothes or cravats for grown-ups.

Among the children's novelties is a tube of plastic that can be made up into balloons: a small knob the size of a hazel nut is squeezed off and blown up with a small reed. Oil painting sets for which outlined canvasses have each part of the picture numbered with the colour to be used and which contain oils and brushes to do the pictures are an idea for the kindergarten child. A water pistol that is fitted with a leakproof pump and will fire up to 500 shots at one filling and a box of Chinese conjuring tricks provide something different for schoolboys.



Heart-shaped and flower-decked soap tablets in miniature size with a plastic bottle of bath salts (Elizabeth Arden)



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CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS BOOKS

AMONG the Christmas books plainly intended for smaller people, the choice lies between those that are more story than illustration and those that are just the reverse. In the first category this year there are some remarkably good books, generally on the small side and invariably prettily illustrated. I was particularly attracted by *Canal Cats* (Frederick Books, Elckie, 7s. 6d.), by C. Fraser-Simson. I am, I confess, interested in both cats and canals and this story of a kitten who got carried off from his mother in a narrow boat on the Regent Canal might have been written for me. *Miss Fairitch and the Little Greenes* (Hutchinson, 5s.) is a fascinating, moving, happy little story about, of all things, a fairy governess. It is by the late Lady Gorell, one of the most rare and original writers for small children that we have had for a long time; I need say no more to anyone who knows her work.

A charming little story *The Discontented Pool* (Hutchinson, 6s.) is by Helen Haywood, who has given it the most enchanting illustrations. *Jan Perry Stories* (Dent, 5s.), the adventures of a very taking little harvest mouse, is by Modwena Sedgwick; *The Story of the Little Car* (Eppworth Press, 4s.) by Leila Berg is a dear little tale which has illustrations by Sillince; *Majollika and Company* (André Deutsch, 7s. 6d.) has a goliwog and his friend a glow-worm for principal characters and Wolf Mankowitz tells their story in his own inimitable fashion.

In the Woods

Deep in the Forest (Hutchinson, 7s. 6d.) has story and pictures in full colours by Rosalie K. Fry. A lonely little girl has a hut in the woods and the dearest little bear comes to her attracted by the lovely smell of the honey buns that she bakes; you could hardly have a prettier little story unless it were, perhaps, Gladys Taylor's *Rud and Robinette* (Blackie, 2s. 6d.), the life story of a handsome young robin, very amusing and good natural history. The same author has also written a companion book at the same price from the same publishers, *The Swallows and Selina*, which is very delightful and, again, sound. *Snowball* in the same series, by Irene Gass, is the story of a small white kitten who manages to trot through the turnstile at the Zoo while all the legs that have paid to go in are flocking past. She wins the love of animals and keepers and becomes the Queen of the Zoo. I cannot remember to have read a more attractive story among the new books for small people. *Hubert the Hedgehog* again in this excellent Anytime Series is by Susan Jolly, and very nice too.

A Lamb in the Antarctic

We do not find a tortoise playing the hero very often outside Aesop, so *The January Tortoise* (Harrap, 7s. 6d.), written and illustrated by K. F. Barker, has novelty to recommend it, and the hero, who has no name and goes around looking for one, is a most engaging little fellow. The hero of *Sam Pig and the Singing Oak* (Faber, 10s. 6d.) has long been a special favourite of mine, and Alison Uttley has made him here just as jolly and naughty and nice as ever. A book for children by Mazo de la Roche is a treasure indeed, and her new one *The Song of Lambert* (Macmillan, 7s. 6d.) is all one could expect it to be: it is the story of a lamb who could sing. He was taken to the Antarctic to be ready to provide lamb chops for an invalid explorer millionaire and, instead, came safely home because his owner grew so fond of him and his songs. Superficially not a very poetical theme, and yet as it is developed here by a master hand quite a beautiful story. Lambert and his friends are portrayed perfectly by Eileen Soper.

The funniest book in this class that has reached me this Christmas is *Clever Polly and the Stupid Wolf* (Faber, 8s. 6d.), by Catherine Storr. The conversations between the wolf who meant to eat Polly and Polly, who had no intention of being eaten, and the wolf's genius for misunderstanding are really delicious.

For the boy or girl whose chief interest is in wild creatures, Maxwell Knight's *Letters to a Young Naturalist* (Collins, 10s. 6d.) is particularly to be recommended. The author covers a very wide field among our native flora and fauna, and it is a book that must inevitably enrich life for every intelligent reader. From the same publishers, edited by John Moore, comes

most of the books about it which appear this Christmas seem to be. The larger part of them are frankly stories: M. E. Atkinson's *Riders and Raids* (Bodley Head, 9s. 6d.), for instance, in which a very pleasing group of children have many adventures in a Somerset setting, some of the most exciting of them arising from a plot to get the local M.F.H. to have a meet of his hounds at their home. Margaret Stanley Wrench in *How Much for a Pony?* (Lutterworth, 6s.) tells a very pleasant tale of a small girl who, as so many small girls do, wanted a pony more than anything else. The action in Lorna Hill's exciting tale *The Five Shilling Holiday* (Burke, 7s. 6d.) takes place on the Island of Lindisfarne,

contains much excellent advice for the young rider, is also a very exciting story in which a gang of pony thieves provide a thrilling incident.

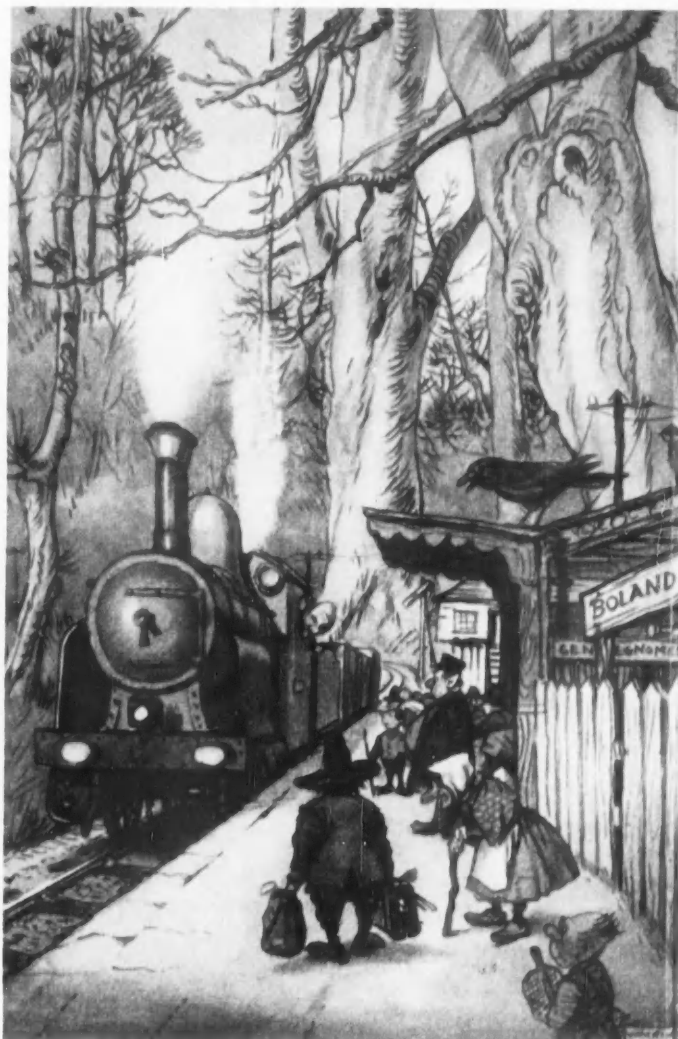
There are two books in which story and tips for pony owners are almost equally important. One is *Riding with Simon* (Country Life, 8s. 6d.) by Mona Sandler, in which a horse literally on its last legs is, by the devotion of his little owner and the help of good friends, brought back to health and usefulness, the other is *Show Jumping Secret* (Collins, 8s. 6d.) by Josephine Pulein-Thompson, in which the accent is on show-jumping and the hero a boy who has suffered from poliomyelitis and been left with a game leg. A new edition of Janet Holyoake's splendid manual *Learning to Ride* (Faber, 15s.) has fine photographic illustrations and will help both parents to teach and young riders to learn. *The Pony Club Annual No. 6* (Naldrett Press, 12s. 6d.) is as usual full of the most delectable illustrations and articles and stories by a long list of important authors, including Frances Pitt, Professor Thomas Bodkin and Monica Edwards. *Pat Snythe's Book of Horses* (Cassell, 10s. 6d.) has 80 illustrations and seems to cover every aspect of its enthralling subject.

Farms and Farm Animals

In the long range of books for small people where the stress is more on pictures than words, though they often tell a very amusing tale, I have been specially entertained by Alec Dyson's *The Prince and the Magic Carpet* (Blackie, 5s.). The pictures by the author are delightfully simplified Eastern scenes, and the story is very good fun. In *Blaze of Broadfurrow Farm* (Bodley Head, 7s. 6d.), David Severn tells all about a fine farm mare's peaceful and friendly doings, and Kiff and Wilmore have provided very English pictures of country scenes and occupations in full colour. The same author, artists and publisher are responsible for *Walnut Tree Meadow* (7s. 6d.) a similar story of just one English field as two children watch it being ploughed up and cultivated. Four small books, by Donald MacDonald, which also deal with farm matters come from Blackie and cost only 2s. 6d. each; they are *Pinkie, Skippy the Southdown*, *Carrie Cachler* and *Bossey*, the last named a cow. Each describes the life and usefulness to man of the creature pictured in it, and small readers are provided with lots to do, besides reading, in the way of easy sums, crosswords and plenty of things to paint. A funny, interesting and what might be called a dual-purpose book is *Harriet and her Harmonium* (Faber, 15s.); it is illustrated by Pearl Binder. There are thirteen songs from the Lomax Collection with piano accompaniment by Robert Gill, and Alan Lomax tells the amusing history of how Harriet crossed the Atlantic with her harmonium and her parasol, got to know the Red Indians and heard and learned lots of folk songs which are passed on to us here.

In French and English

Crocodile Tears (Faber, 8s. 6d.) is the work of André François, written in both French and English, an entertaining thesis on the ways of crocodiles—well, some crocodiles—and told all over again in its bright pictures. *Dub Dub and the Red Indians* from the same publishers at the same price is by Norman Mommens, who writes and illustrates an exciting tale of the champion Runner Duck, of a flying pudding with a treasure inside it, and a very wicked gunman who tried to steal it. Something quite different is *Chica* (Faber, 6s. 6d.) by Barbara Woodhouse, illustrated entirely from photographs of the very little dog who is its subject and is in real life quite a well-known personality in the film world. *Come Shopping* (Faber, 7s. 6d.) is an unexpected story of a brother who kept a shop and his two sisters who made things to sell. Many things were just what you might hope to find



AN ILLUSTRATION BY DENYS WATKINS-PITCHFORD IN THE FOREST OF BOLAND LIGHT RAILWAY

The Boys' Country Book (15s.). It is a collection of articles dealing with a mass of country pursuits and interests—camping, fishing, gliding, underwater swimming, plant-hunting, outdoor food, to quote the first six titles all written by authorities and illustrated.

Wild animal life and most exciting, almost frightening, escapes and tight corners make Gerald Durrell's *The New Noah* (Collins, 10s. 6d.) something quite out of the common. He is a collector of wild animals, and here he tells stories of his work and of how some of them nearly collected him. Ralph Thompson has drawn extremely good pictures to show what the animals, some of which were rare ones, looked like.

If the number of books devoted to it in some way is any guide, quite the most popular interest among children to-day is riding, and very good

Ponies in Secret (Ward Lock, 21s.) is given a Kentish setting by its author, D. A. Young. It is the story of a riding holiday and has 16 lovely illustrations in full colour by Maurice Tulloch, who certainly does know how to draw a horse. Doris Gates in *Trouble for Jerry* (Muller, 8s. 6d.) has as her hero a boy who lives on a ranch and takes great offence when two little girls come to stay with his family. I found this really amusing.

Two girls and two ponies are the principal characters in *Hoof Beats* (Phoenix, 10s. 6d.) by Peggie Canham, which has a very real-life feeling enhanced by no fewer than 11 photographs. *John and Jennifer's Pony Club* (Nelson, 6s.) with literally masses of photographs by Gee Denes, some in colour, is written by Lady Kitty Ritson and is altogether delightful. *The Twins in the New Forest* (Hutchinson, 7s. 6d.) by E. H. Parsons, while it

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PAMELA BROWN

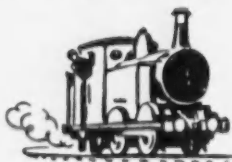
Louisa Louisa May Alcott, author of *Little Women*, has much in common with her biographer, Pamela Brown. This fictional story of her life is an entirely new venture for Pamela Brown; it will be readily welcomed by her admirers. Illustrated by Sax 8s 6d



Two Henry Donald Stories

Here are two stories by Henry Donald, *THE STORY OF HAL 5* AND *THE HAYWARDS* (8s 6d), is about a broken-down old car called HAL 5, unwanted until the Haywards bought him. The other, *THE HAPPY*

STORY OF WALLACE *THE ENGINE* (7s 6d), is the story of Wallace the engine, Old Sandy his driver, and Frank the fireman. Both illustrated by Gilbert Dunlop.



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EVANS

in any nice shop, but there were others, for instance a magic dress which granted its wearer's wishes and was sold by mistake. Lavinia Smiley has made a very nice thing of this tale.

The space-ship idea has invaded even the world of small children's books: here comes *Ethelbert Goes to the Moon* (Collins, 6s.), in which Rosemary Hoyland sends Ethelbert the fat little tiger and his explorer friend off to the back of the moon, where they found a new friend who came back to earth with them, a Quog, if you know what that is. I found this a pleasant way of dealing with a rather terrific subject and rather a subtle caricature of some more serious fiction on such travels.

Gnomes and Leprechauns

Jean de Brunhoff's immortal tale *The Story of Babar* (Methuen, 7s. 6d.) appears as enchanting as ever in its eighth edition. In *The Forest of Boland Light Railway* (Eyre and Spottiswoode, 8s. 6d.) the partnership between author "BB" and artist Denys Watkins-Pitchford gives us yet another thrilling tale in which gnomes, wicked leprechauns and some extraordinary creatures called cozies have terrific fights. We are on the side of the gnomes and tremble for our friends and their treasured railway, but all ends happily. *Timothy's Book of Trains* (Collins, 2s. 6d.), a lovely volume of train-lore with many pictures, lots of them coloured, and masses of information, should delight every young railway enthusiast. *The Animals' Conference* (Collins, 12s. 6d.) is a translation of the book by Erich Kästner, illustrated by Walter Trier. It tells how Oscar the elephant, having observed the conference habit among mankind called a gigantic conference of birds, beasts and fishes in order to find some way, for the sake of human children, to do away with war—not altogether a humorous idea, perhaps, but the illustrations are very amusing, and so is the caricature of some human proceedings.

The River Boy (Hart-Davis, 12s. 6d.), in which a boy who loves running water meets his own reflection and meets strange people and sees strange sights, is by Theresa Whistler. This is an exceptionally thoughtful and imaginative story, and I can believe that, like



ONE OF THE ILLUSTRATIONS IN TALES ON THE NORTH WIND

other outstanding children's books, it will appeal nearly as much to their elders who have any love for beauty and the open air.

Another tortoise makes his bow in the Christmas books, and I should like to hear from him again. His name is Timothy and he is old and very down on his luck when Susan Collins begins his story in *Frogmorton* (Collins, 8s. 6d.). His one-time friend Frederick Fitzherbert Frog meets him in Piccadilly and asks him to spend Christmas at Frogmorton, and that is only the kindly and cheerful beginning of a great many events, some jolly, some frightening, and all ending with a better time for Timothy. *Tales on the North Wind* (Bell, 7s. 6d.) is a book after my own heart. These are tales from Scandinavia and north Germany collected and translated by Benjamin Thorpe and Thomas Keightley some time in the 19th century—real folk fairy tales made readable for young people but still with every mark of authenticity. *Collins Children's Annual* (Collins, 6s.), with many gay stories and pictures suited to people from six to ten years old, is to be highly recommended.

In *The Prince of Peace* (Oxford, 2s. 6d.), V. D. Peareth has done beautifully a most difficult thing, written a nativity play for village production in words children can understand and believe. B.E.S.

(To be concluded)

THE HORSE IN LITERATURE

AN interesting, amusing and varied anthology of the horse has been compiled by Stella Walker, with the title, *Long Live the Horse* (COUNTRY LIFE, 15s.). It is a book that can be picked up and laid down with the assurance that there will always be something fresh to find in it: a quotation, perhaps, that one did not realise existed or, even better, some old and treasured extract to savour again. Some of Mrs. Walker's quotations date back to c. 1,000 B.C., but she does not fail to include passages from Surtees, Nimrod and James Agate. Some of the best verses from Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's *The Old Grey Fox* are given in the hunting section.

The book is pleasantly produced, and drawings by G. D. Armour head each section. P.H.

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CARS DESCRIBED

THE STANDARD VANGUARD By J. EASON GIBSON

THE latest Standard Vanguard drew considerable attention at Earl's Court. This was partly because of its greatly improved appearance, but more because study of the specification suggested that further practical improvements would be discovered on the road. I have recently carried out an extended test of the car, and found it a worthy successor to the earlier model. The most obvious change, apart from appearance, is the increase in the wheelbase from 7 ft. 10 ins. to 8 ft. 6 ins., which has enabled the car to be built lower.

The four-cylinder overhead valve engine, with a capacity of 2,088 c.c., is retained, but it has been modified to some extent, particularly as regards the inlet porting. This improvement has allowed the rear axle ratio to be made slightly higher, with the result that about the same performance as before is obtained, but at reduced engine speed. Despite the improvements to the engine, the same basic design has now been in use since 1947, and for this reason its reliability can almost be taken for granted. Since the introduction of the original Vanguard the engine has earned a reputation for long life, associated with low cylinder-bore

in the pipe leading from the cylinder head. The leading edge of the bonnet is approximately 5 ins. lower than on the previous model, and this change gives greatly improved forward vision. At its price the car is well fitted. There are folding centre arm rests on front and rear seats, and all four doors are provided with combined elbow rests and door pulls. An interior heater, including a demister and defroster, is standard equipment; the system allows either cool or heated air to be circulated. Also included as standard is a windscreen washer, the new Lucas electrically-impelled type. With this there is no time lag or dependence on the engine, and the amount of water squirted on to the windscreen can be accurately judged and controlled. The lines of this new model are in my opinion very good, and the use of a cross-flow radiator justifies the use of a simple horizontal air entry at the front. All instruments are neatly grouped directly in front of the driver, and include an ammeter and gauges for fuel, water temperature and oil. The instruments have black faces with white figures, and are illuminated directly by a green light. The fuel tank is placed immediately behind the rear seat squab, a large

obtain the benefit of five gears. The change from normal second to overdrive second required only a flick of the switch—without the clutch, of course—and when changing from overdrive second to normal top it was only necessary to switch back to normal drive at the same time. Then, once one's selected cruising speed was reached, overdrive top could be engaged. I found that pleasant speeds to use on the various gears were 40 m.p.h. on second, 55 to 60 m.p.h. on overdrive second, 70 to 75 m.p.h. on top, and then hold one's cruising speed on overdrive. This speed could be held as long as road and traffic conditions would allow, and at these speeds both the engine and the car as a whole were pleasantly smooth and silent. Some vibration was noticed from the wide bonnet-top when running at top speed.

When I tested the previous model, also fitted with overdrive, I got a fuel consumption of 25.9 m.p.g.; on that occasion much of my driving was on continental roads with much use of overdrive. Though the new model was tested entirely on the twistier roads of Britain, the fuel consumption throughout my test averaged 29.5 m.p.g. This improvement in economy can be traced to the engine improvements, the slightly higher gear ratios, and the improved body form. Because the brakes have the relatively small friction area of 89 square ins./ton I made deliberate efforts to fade the brakes, but without success. I braked the car from 60 m.p.h. to rest about ten times in rapid succession, but the brakes remained even and smooth. The adjustment on the bench-type driving seat is limited; even with the seat as far back as possible I found the steering wheel too close to my right thigh when it was raised.

Although the steering on the car I tested was rather on the heavy side at low speeds or when manoeuvring, it was just right when I was driving at normal speeds on the open road, and I obtained an accurate impression of what the front wheels were actually doing. The car can be driven fast on winding roads, and over variable surfaces in extreme safety, and I found that wet roads made little difference to the car's stability. It rolls very little, even when cornered brutally, and there is little tyre noise. Average speeds of between 45 and 50 m.p.h. can easily be obtained on average main roads and, more important, without straining the car or the passengers. The headlights give a good range and width of beam, and maximum speed can safely be held on suitable roads. I did not like the excessive size of the combined rear- and stop-lights, which obviously nearly blinded following motorists every time the brakes were applied after dark. Altogether, this model shows worth while improvements over its predecessor in appearance, comfort and economy of running.



THE NEW STANDARD VANGUARD. It has a well balanced appearance, but over-large rear- and stop-lights

wear. This is undoubtedly largely due to the use of wet cylinder liners, which make for freedom from local heating and from distortion. The dip-stick is of a sensible length and the oil filler is handily placed on the valve-rocker box. It is interesting to note that the engine of the Vanguard's sister car, the Triumph TR2, was developed in the first place from the Vanguard, but the latest Vanguard has benefited from lessons learnt in competitions with the TR2.

The wheelbase is 8 ins. longer than on the previous model, but instead of this extra length being used to give greater room in front and rear compartments, it has enabled the seats to be placed lower, with the rear seats well in advance of the rear-wheel arch. The wide rear door gives unrestricted entry to the rear seat. The independent front suspension is carried on a separate assembly, which is attached to the main assembly at four points, with rubber insulation at each. Telescopic hydraulic dampers are mounted within the volutions of the front coil springs. The rear suspension is by semi-elliptic laminated springs, once again assisted by telescopic hydraulic dampers. The final drive is by hypoid bevel, which allows the transmission tunnel to be of reasonable dimensions. Integral construction is used for the car and the disposal of the load-carrying members is almost the same as that on both the Standard Eight and Ten. Lockheed hydraulic brakes are used, those at the front being of the two-leading-shoe type.

An interesting point is that, to assist in giving a lower bonnet line, the radiator is of cross-flow type and has the filler incorporated

luggage boot thus being given; the spare wheel is carried in a separate compartment beneath.

The Laycock de Normanville overdrive unit, operative on both second and top gear, is available as an optional extra, and the car I tested was so fitted. The main gear lever is mounted beneath the steering wheel, for operation by the left hand, while the small switch for the overdrive can be reached by the fingers of the right hand while one still holds the wheel. The hand-brake lever is to the right beneath the fascia, and the T-head of the lever has only to be turned clockwise for release. The value of the overdrive can be appreciated from the fact that 3,000 r.p.m. on top gear is equivalent to 54 m.p.h., whereas the same engine speed on overdrive gives 69 m.p.h. The reduction in engine speed for a given road speed helps appreciably to give a reasonable fuel consumption, even at high cruising speeds.

My first impression on taking the car on to the road was that it felt smaller and neater than its predecessor, despite the fact that it is actually longer. This impression is almost certainly due to the falling bonnet line, and the very good all-round vision. The position of the windscreen pillar in relation to the driver's seat produces rather a blind spot, and I found that care had to be used when taking sharp right-hand turns in city traffic. The Vanguard is definitely a car which one likes more with every mile covered, particularly on the open road.

It is easily possible to use the gear lever and the overdrive switch simultaneously, to

THE STANDARD VANGUARD

Makers: Standard Motor Co., Coventry.

SPECIFICATION

Price	£849 14s. 2d.	Brakes	Lockheed hydraulic
(including P.T.)	£250 14s. 2d.	Suspension	Independent (front)
Cubic capacity	2,088 c.c.	Wheelbase	8 ft. 6 ins.
Bore and stroke	85 x 92 mm.	Track (front)	4 ft. 2½ ins.
Cylinders	Four	Track (rear)	4 ft. 3 ins.
Valves	Overhead	Overall length	14 ft. 3½ ins.
R.H.P.	68 at 4,200 r.p.m.	Overall width	5 ft. 7½ ins.
Carb.	Solex downdraught	Overall height	5 ft. 1 in.
Ignition	Lucas coil	Ground clearance	7½ ins.
Oil filter	Purolator by-pass	Turning circle	35 ft.
1st gear	15.22 to 1	Weight	24½ cwt.
2nd gear	7.18 to 1	Fuel cap.	12½ gall.
3rd gear	5.6 to 1	Oil cap.	11½ pints
4th gear	4.3 to 1	Water cap.	14½ pints
Over drive	3.35 to 1	Tyres	Dunlop 5.50 x 16
Final drive	Hypoid bevel		

PERFORMANCE

Acceleration		Max. speed	
Top	2nd o'drive		82.0 m.p.h. (o'drive)
30-50 11.8 secs.	10.2 secs.	Max. speed	
40-60 15.8 secs.	15.5 secs.		79.4 m.p.h. (top)
0-60 (all gears)	21.5 secs.	Petrol consumption	29.5 m.p.g. at 45 m.p.h. average.

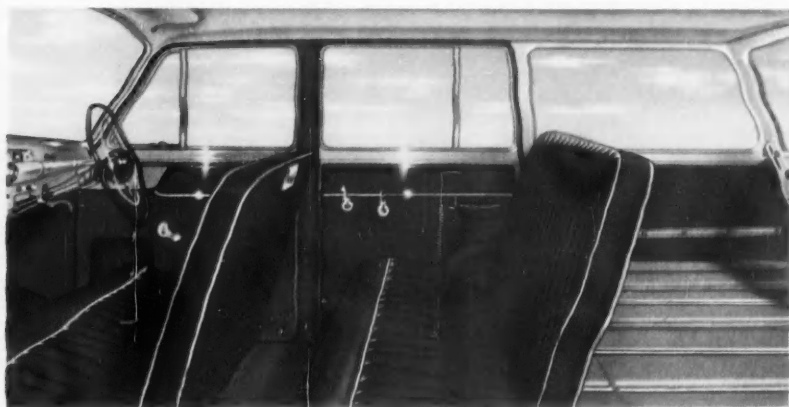
BRAKES: 30 to 0 in 31 feet (98 per cent. efficiency)

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OLD ENGLISH WASSAIL BOWLS

By G. BERNARD HUGHES

THE hearty revels that long brightened mid-winter darkness from Christmas Eve to Twelfth Night found their symbol of jovial good-fellowship in the mighty wassail bowl. A thousand years ago the Englishmen's spiced ale had delighted their Danish invaders, who fought ruthlessly by day and at night drank deep of the pungent liquor, passing the brimming cup from hand to hand. The toast was "*wass heil*"—"be of health"—and the response "*drinc heil*."

The Normans, in their turn, joyfully discovered the national custom, and by Tudor days the highly-spiced ale itself had become known as wassail. Household ordinances issued by Henry VII in 1494 laid down that "as the steward cometh in at the hall door with the wassel, he must crii three times 'Wassell! Wassell!! Wassell!!!' to which the chaplain must respond with a song."

Henry VIII discarded wassail in preference



2.—THE CHARLES I WASSAIL BOWL, WITH COVER AND SPICE-BOX IN IVORY AND ENGINE-TURNED ORNAMENT



1.—CAROLINE WASSAIL TABLE, CANDLESTICKS AND STANDS OF LIGNUM VITÆ AND IVORY, WITH A WASSAIL BOWL AND SILVER-RIMMED TUMBLERS, TRADITIONALLY ASSOCIATED WITH KING CHARLES I

for French wines made redolent with newly-discovered aromatic spices brought to England from the West Indies. Spiced ale fell from favour among the nobility and gentry, but retained an important part in Christmas festivities. Hall's *Chronicles* (1548) report that wassail was at that time the first drink to be served on Christmas Eve, the last on Twelfth Night. The drinking of Christmas wassail became widespread during Elizabethan times. The master in a well-appointed household would prepare the drink in a capacious bowl placed upon a special table, accompanied by several silver-rimmed tumblers and flanked by a pair of burning wax candles. The silver rims prove that these tumblers were used as drinking vessels, for doctors were then advocating silver or silver-rimmed drinking-vessels against the spread of an illness associated with promiscuous drinking from base metals and porous wood such as sycamore, pear and maple.

It is generally assumed that the tumblers were filled by dipping them directly into the wassail. This improbable procedure would have incurred the risk of fingers slipping on the smooth, wet wood, and of drops of wassail from the wet vessel falling upon neckwear and staining it. More reasonably, ladles were used. Examples in the Pinto collection show the handle and bowl cut from a single piece of wood; the handle sometimes has a projecting lug on its underside to prevent it from slipping into the bowl. Two-piece lignum vitae ladles are also known. The host drank first to the health of all present, who then toasted one another in succession.

In the cider districts of Herefordshire, Kent and Devon it was customary to drink wassail on *la mas abul* (pronounced lamasool), the day of the apple fruit—November 1. To the spiced and sugared ale was added the pulp of roasted crabs or apples, stirred in vigorously with a spray of rosemary, which also contributed to the piquancy of the liquor. This wassail, under the name of lamb's



3.—DETAIL OF THE COVER AND SPICE-BOX OF THE CHARLES I WASSAIL BOWL. (Right) 4.—DETAIL OF THE FOOT OF THE WASSAIL BOWL. Each of the medallions bears a different design

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wool, was soon adopted throughout southern England. The earliest use of this term noted by the *Oxford Dictionary* dates from 1592, when G. Harvey recorded "Drinking a cup of Lammiswool." This appears to confirm a derivation from lamasool. Robert Herrick, half a century later, wrote his own rhymed recipe for wassail:

*Next crowne the bowle full
With gentle lamb's wool,
Add sugar, nutmeg and ginger;
With store of ale too:
And thus ye must doe
To make the Wassail a swinger.*

The earliest representation of an Elizabethan wassail bowl so far noted was discovered carved into an oak chimney-beam during the demolition of a house built in the 1580s for the Hawke family, of Snodland, Kent. This beam was sketched for Chambers's *Book of Days* (1864), showing the bowl to have been two-handled, with a foot rim and with the diameter measuring three times the depth. Two hawks were carved on the bowl in allusion to the family name, and extending left and right from the bowl across the beam were two fruiting apple branches, one scrolling around the words "wass heil," the other encircling "drinc heil."

Wassail bowls were long made from English maple, selected because it did not impart an unpleasant taste to spiced ale, as did most other woods. The late 16th century *Mirror of the Months* refers to "wassail bowls of maple tree." They were turned by a specialist branch of the turner's craft known as dish-throwers. Sir R. Goosecappe in 1606 cried: "He is a most excellent Turner, and can turne you wassaile bowles." The maple or other wood was so sawn that its grain cut across the bowl, because otherwise the porosity of the wood would have permitted the liquor to seep out. Such bowls were hollowed on a pole lathe by the use of a long-handled steel-cutting tool with a long, curved chisel point. The tool was so manipulated that the entire centre of the bowl was removed in a single piece. In this way



5.—MID-17th-CENTURY WASSAIL BOWL OF LIGNUM VITÆ WITH FLUTED BOWL AND ENGINE-TURNED DECORATION. (Right) 6.—THE DECORATION BENEATH THE FOOT OF THE BOWL



closely-fitting nests of bowls or cups might be cut so accurately from a single block that no wood was wasted.

Stemmed wassail bowls of lignum vitæ began to be made early in the reign of Charles I. These were handsome examples of turnery, costly alike in material, labour and tools. Lignum vitæ, brought from the mainland of America, had been used for a century or more for medicinal purposes. Blundcoil wrote in 1594 of "the wood of Brasill, wood of Guaicum, called Lignum Vitæ, or the wood of life." This variety, useless for turning, contained in its texture about 25 per cent. of gum resin, which was extracted for use by apothecaries.

Lignum vitæ suitable for turning came from the Bahama Islands, where the trees grew to a height of 40 ft., with knotty branches extending from a crooked trunk. It was there used for hinges and locks in buildings located near the sea or the salt ponds, where even

to-day speedy salt erosion precludes the use of iron. This lignum vitæ was much harder than any wood formerly available to English turners. Its extreme toughness was caused by dense, interlocking fibres, a quality brought about by the twisted, irregular grain both radially and tangentially. The finest quality from San Domingo weighed as much as 88½ lb. per cubic foot, in comparison with 40 lb. for oak and 37 lb. for maple. Lignum vitæ displays little figure, but colour variations are attractive, the dark greenish-brown or near black heart-wood being sharply contrasted with the bright yellow sapwood, which becomes darker upon exposure to air.

Lignum vitæ is so hard that it turns the edges of working tools made from the hardest of modern cutting steels (*Timber*, by F. Y. Henderson, 1939). Because of this intense hardness it is doubtful if wood turners used it until after 1614, when William Ellyot and Matthias Meyssey invented the cementation process of steel-making. This steel, harder and longer-wearing than any formerly available, was very scarce until the 1630s, when lignum vitæ was used for heavy machinery parts such as tightening screws for presses, cogwheels and pulley block sheaves.

The lathe used for turning lignum vitæ required greater power than was possible from a foot-operated pole-lathe or bow-lathe. A wheel-driven lathe was used, operated by a wheel boy, thus leaving the turner free to concentrate on tool and wood. The skill required was such that wheel-lathe turners commanded higher rates of pay than men in other branches of the craft. These lathes rotated the wood with a swift forward motion so that the tool did not need to be lifted intermittently from the wood, as in other lathes of the period.

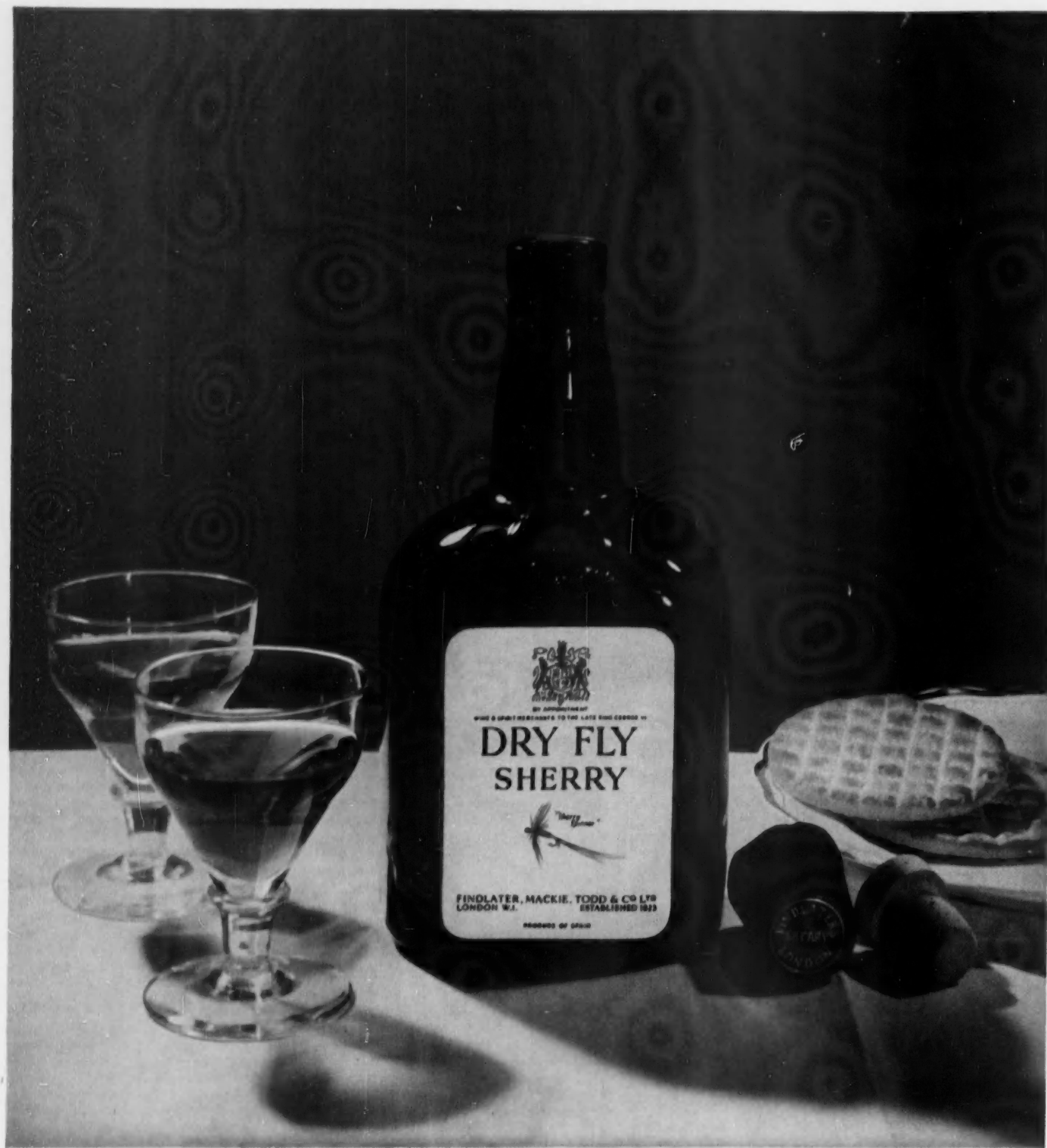
The so-called medicinal properties of Brazilian lignum vitæ inevitably became associated with the West Indian wood, thus influencing its use for drinking-cups, which were necessarily costly. The belief became current that certain invigorating qualities in the wood passed to the liquor. Because of this, and because it was possible to turn an 18-in. bowl in a single piece, lignum vitæ was used for wassail bowls.

These bowls, finished with a smooth dull lustre, might measure as much as two feet in height,



7.—MID-17th-CENTURY LIGNUM VITÆ WASSAIL BOWL WITH A COVER SUPPORTING A SPICE-BOX. (Right) 8.—LIGNUM VITÆ BOWL WITH A FLUTED BASE AND A FOOT AND COVER ORNAMENTED WITH ENGINE-TURNING





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with a capacity of five gallons. The body was usually supported by a short stem rising from a low spreading foot, the diameter of which was approximately that of the bowl base. Its surface might be smooth, but externally was more commonly turned with raised ribs or bands, single or in series. On more elaborate examples, bowl, lid, foot and the depression beneath the foot were encircled with engine-turned ornament. The lid might be surmounted by an ornamental finial, often a miniature version of the bowl itself, and used as a spice-box: an example has been noted fitted with a silver nutmeg-grater. These spice-boxes were for individual use by those who preferred a more fiery wassail.

Wassail bowls might be built from several units—foot, stem, body, cover and so on—turned with chisels, gouges and other cutting-tools forged by the turners themselves from steel bars. The metal was heated in braziers burning smokeless willow charcoal, and in use the tools required frequent accurate tempering and sharpening. No two existing wassail bowls, apart from pairs, have been noted exactly alike in shape, and their decoration ranged from plain rib-work to intricate engine-turning achieved by the use of eccentric contrivances. The invention of engine-turning is often attributed by ceramic authorities to Josiah Wedgwood in the 1760s: full instructions, with copious illustrations, are to be found, however, in *L'Art de Tourner en Perfection* (1701), by Charles Plumier. Even the raised bands encircling bowl and spice-box might be enriched with engine-turning. Plumier also illustrates the processes by which



9.—A RARE LIGNUM VITÆ WASSAIL BOWL COMBINED WITH A MORTAR.
(Right) A LIGNUM VITÆ BOWL WITH A COVER SUPPORTING A SPICE-BOX
AND THREE BALUSTER TUMBLER STANDS



10.—A LIDDED WASSAIL BOWL OF LIGNUM VITÆ

bowls might be mechanically fluted, gadrooned or otherwise irregularly turned.

Complete wassail drinking outfits were made in the 17th century, but few remain. The most spectacular, in the possession of Lord Cullen of Ashbourne, consists of a wassail bowl table, a pair of candlesticks and candlesticks, a covered bowl with a spice-box finial, and a set of silver-rimmed tumblers. These are beautifully designed and exquisitely turned in lignum vitae and ivory.

The exterior of the wassail bowl is ornamented with bands of engine-turning in varying patterns; the slender ivory stem has a gadrooned knob; the foot is engine-turned on upper and lower surfaces; a low-domed engine-turned cover supports a spice-box similar in shape to the bowl itself, and is encircled with three pairs of turned pinnacles of varying heights, somewhat resembling Staunton chessmen.

Late in the 17th century a wassail bowl might be provided with a circular tray, also of lignum vitae, upon which it stood during service. Around the edge of the tray, which had a diameter measuring about twice that of the bowl, were set vertically

several—usually six—turned pegs upon which the upturned tumblers were placed when not in use. Decorative pegs might also rise from the cover rim, with a third miniature set on the spice-box lid. It was always desirable to allow wooden vessels to drain after washing.

The tray might be mounted on a wash-turned stem rising from a tripod foot. A wassail set of lignum vitae noted in Tunbridge Wells a few years ago included a stand, a wassail bowl with its cover supporting a spice-box, and a dished tray set with seven pegs, each with its own tumbler. There was also a pair of open-work swash-turned candlesticks. Tunbridge Wells, of course, was the centre of the ornamental wood-turning craft in early Georgian England. In 1697 Celia Fiennes noted in her *Diary* that the Tunbridge Wells shops were

"full of all sorts of curious wooden ware which this place is noted for, the delicate neate and thin ware of wood both white and lignum vitae."

Wassail bowls with applied decoration of silver were fashionable throughout the 17th century. The bowl might be deeply rimmed with silver plate, scalloped or otherwise shaped on the outer edge, and showing brilliantly against

the dull-lustred lignum vitae. This silver rim was angled to fit against the wooden rim, being vertical on the outside and bending over the lip at an acute angle. The flat band of plate above the wavy rim might be embossed with a simple strengthening rib, and a narrow decorative band embossed below. Some had a plain circle bearing an engraved inscription, in which the date might be included. In others the band was engraved with intricate scrollwork. More elaborately the lid rim also might be mounted with silver in a matching design. The silver mounts might be gilded, in which case the raised ribs encircling the body were also gilded.

The cover of an early wassail bowl might be set with an enamel print displaying the owner's coat-of-arms attached to a flat-topped protuberance turned for the purpose. These rare prints resemble those found set in the bases of some mazers. An expansive silver plate engraved with the owner's coat-of-arms might be fixed to one side of the bowl with silver studs; from the 1660s silver plates engraved with dated inscriptions were fashionable. Others were gilded and painted with coats-of-arms.

Wassail fountains were made (see COUNTRY LIFE, February 10). An example in the Burrell collection at Glasgow has a thick stem turned with a heavy cylindrical knob, fitted with three taps from which wassail could be drawn.

Illustrations: 1-4, collection of Lord Cullen of Ashbourne; 5, 6 and 7, Victoria and Albert Museum; 9, 10 and 11, collection of Mr. Edward H. Pinto.



11.—CONTRASTING EXAMPLES OF LIGNUM VITÆ WASSAIL BOWLS

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AN UNCHANGED LANDSCAPE

By BRYAN LITTLE



VIEW FROM MAKER HEIGHTS, IN THE RAME PENINSULA, WHICH LIES ON THE CORNISH SIDE OF PLYMOUTH SOUND, ACROSS THE MILLBROOK AND ST. JOHN LAKES TOWARDS DARTMOOR

IT is far from easy nowadays to find a tract of country, within four miles of a great city's centre, where the change of two centuries has hardly come to the landscape, and where local geography has safeguarded the rural nature of a territory close-knit with its neighbouring city, but in its appearance still of the pre-industrial age. Yet such a countryside exists, a blend of sea-coast, of tidal waterway and of unmarred farm-land. It is the Rame Peninsula, the south-eastern extremity of Cornwall, and takes the name which I here give it from the great promontory of Rame Head. The city near it is Plymouth, with its dockyard at Devonport.

One does not often find so sharp a contrast between one side and the other of a Devon or Cornwall tidal haven. The rural isolation of the Rame Peninsula, though modified by ferries, is imposed upon its few thousand dwellers by the precise configuration of the Tamar estuary. Off the Hamoaze, for centuries now the dockyard anchorage, there branch two creeks, both cutting deep into their hinterland, and to be traversed only where they receive the streams whose channels wind down past their mudflats to the wider expanse of the naval harbour. They are the Millbrook Lake, the more frequented and navigated and the smaller of the two, and the more solitary expanse whose name comes from the secluded, idyllic creek-head village of St. John. Between the St. John's Lake and the much larger inlet of the Lynher or St. German's River, a gently undulating peninsula contains such various man-made features as the 18th-century mansion of Antony House, the main road from Plymouth into Cornwall, and a great naval camp. For the far more beautiful and dramatic Rame Peninsula the decisive geography lies in its two creeks, and in the fact that its ferries, as when Celia Fiennes crossed hazardingly from Plymouth to "Cribly" (now Cremyll), carry none but travellers on foot.

The creeks, as I have said, run deep into the hills which part the great land-locked anchorage from the high Cornish coastline, whose outlook is the long, slow swell of the Atlantic. From St. John, for instance, it is only a mile and a half as the crow flies from the placid mud creek to the clear rockpools of Whitsand Bay. The whole peninsula, from the far-

seen fort of Tregantle to Rame Head or the parkland of Mount Edgcumbe, is a stretch of only four miles. Yet what variety is here within the general seclusion imposed by the water barrier between Rame and Plymouth! Of the three zones, the creeks and their verges, the farm-lands, and the sterner terrain of the cliffs, one may start (Mount Edgcumbe being left out of a detailed reckoning) with what one first encounters on the journey from the Cremyll of Celia Fiennes's landing to the outer coast.

The "Lakes" of Millbrook and St. John, alike in giving seclusion to their hinterland, are themselves a contrast. The Millbrook creek, with the wooded slopes of Maker Heights rising steeply and picturesquely above a waterside road well dotted with cottages and Regency villas, is the more populous and "civilised" of the two. When Celia Fiennes made the journey

about 1698 she "went all along by the water and had the full view of the [newly established] Dock-yards"; she would have passed by an elevated spot, looking straight at the building slips, which is the most dramatic of all vantage-points for viewing a warship launch. The modern road for a while strikes up and inland, but comes down again to the tidal waterside with its numerous waders, passes a long cartshed which was once the rope-walk of a small shipyard at Anderton, and so to Anderton itself, where one sees the whitewashed sophistication of an excellent group of Regency houses, set clear in their gardens, whose first owners must have looked rather to haunts in Foulston's Plymouth than to the less polished pursuits of the country rising steeply behind them towards the rock-bound coast.

Over the creek the peninsula of Inceworth



RAME HEAD, CAPPED BY THE MEDIEVAL CHAPEL OF ST. MICHAEL



THE CLOSE-BUILT TOWER AND SPIRE OF RAME CHURCH

divides the Millbrook Lake from the remoter, more silent expanse of St. John. Its buildings are of some note. For out on its tip, at South Down, are the massive stone-built remains of the great brewery which served the Navy in Georgian times. It ante-dates Rennie's monumental Victualling Yard at Stonehouse on the Plymouth side: two of its better preserved buildings bear the dates 1745 and 1791. Half-way to Millbrook the building of a one-time watermill has a date plaque of 1598. On the narrow neck between the creeks a roofless ruin, smothered now with ivy so that its early-14th-century windows are scarcely discernible, is the manor chapel of Inceworth, licensed for its Champenowne owners in 1331. It is almost the only relic of what was once a considerable house. In its own time it may well have been highly convenient for local people. For Millbrook, in the manner of Cornish waterside villages, was well away from Maker, its hill-top parish church. Nowadays, with its modern church, an obviously ancient main street and some 2,000 people, it is one of the two chief settlements of the peninsula, embodying the dual nature, rural yet in a manner urban, of a tract of country so close to a great city. Millbrook has long sent many men to the Navy, in Napoleon's time the South Down brewery was its mainstay, and nowadays there is a large Millbrook contingent whose work lies in the dockyard at Devonport. Far otherwise, and more convincingly rustic in the romantic sense, is St. John. For there, amid stone-built cottages and glimpses of the creek-head and of a trim Regency rectory, the tiny church has a squat, unadorned little Norman tower which suggests, in so tucked-away a village, that the ubiquitous builders of Perpendicular Cornish towers forgot it, or never knew of its existence.

Between the two villages, past Penhale with its fine Georgian farm-house amid the streamlet valleys and the folds of the steep-sided hills, one senses with astonishment the utter peace of a countryside whose narrow, abrupt, and winding road still insulates it from the world.

Nor are these streamlet valleys the only ones where deepset streams carve through the loftier terrain of the peninsula. Millbrook's "Lake" is fed by its own considerable stream in whose quietly soggy valley the snipe will settle when winter is cold. Other rivulets run direct to Cawsand

Bay. Between them all, sometimes over 400 feet high and at such levels looking as much to the Atlantic as back to Dartmoor and the sprawling houses of outer Plymouth, are the rolling, high-hedged farmlands with their Georgian houses perched on the hillsides and open to the driven spray of the winter storms. Up among them are the two medieval churches of Maker and Rame. Maker, including Mount Edgcombe within its parish, and also the Kingsand half of the double village of Kingsand and Cawsand, is Perpendicular, with its fine pinnacled tower a landmark both down in the Hamoaze and southward to the Eddystone. More remote and primeval, with its Norman tympanum and partly of the 14th century, is the wind-beaten upland sanctuary of Rame. Spires are not common in Cornwall, but here, its masonry blending closely with that of the tower, is one of about 1300 which looks, from its high ground, along the whole sequence of Cornish headlands from Rame Head to the Lizard. In both of the churchyards the numerous headstones of the drowned show the nautical callings of the parishioners down by the bay.

Lastly, the coastline. Kingsand and Cawsand come first, outwardly a single village but really a double community where two separate streams make their way to the sea. Not only were the villages once in their separate parishes, but the boundary stone still visible in a cottage wall was a border between Cornwall and a fragment of Devon maintained, till the 1840s, across the Tamar. The villages, with their narrowly tumbled streets of white- and pink-washed rubble, are what one traditionally expects of Cornish fishing settlements. In Nelson's time, before Rennie's great breakwater fenced in the Sound from the sou'-westers, they were also the landing place of a famous naval anchorage.

From Cawsand one may stroll delightedly through planted woodlands to Penlee, which is the western outpost of Plymouth Sound. From Penlee there is the first sight, impressive as any view of so nobly shaped a promontory must be, of Rame Head. There could be no more splendid beginning for the great sweep of the Cornish

coast. For Rame Head is no mere bluff ending to a plateau. Before it the land dips and then rises again, symmetrical and from any angle majestic, in its beautifully proportioned cone. Here, indeed, in Cornwall is a second St. Michael's Mount, for upon the peak of the cone is a late medieval St. Michael's chapel. Its windows are unglazed, its door has gone, but in its structure it remains intact. As in the larger, more elaborate St. Catherine's chapel at Abbotsbury, the sturdy walls and vaulted roof are built to defy the wind, in a continuity of masonry.

From Rame one best sees the simple curve of the Whitsand coastline, rugged and precipitous as it runs to the mouth of the Seaton river and beyond it to Looe. Thirty years back the prospect was of virgin slopes, bracken-clad or with rough pasture above the final rockfall down to the beach. Now an unsightly peppering of wooden holiday huts mars the landscape. No more, however, may be built or replaced below the road, which gives a coastal drive, from Rame to Tregantle, of a scenic splendour hard to rival even in Cornwall. The road itself was tactical in its origin, made to link up the forts and batteries which here, as elsewhere in the Rame Peninsula, strangely diversify the landscape of these coastal uplands. They were built as the outer defences of Plymouth, and I well recall how one of them, not many years ago, still had its antiquated mid-Victorian muzzle loaders. In the second World War this battery above the Whitsands did duty as a radar station.

Down on the beach, with the rollers coming in clean from the Atlantic approaches, the scene is one of pools, rocks and sandy stretches, of greater size as one goes westward from Polhawn below Rame to the great expanse of Tregantle. Our journey may fitly end just before Tregantle, at Sharrow Point. This little headland, boldly jutting out as one sees it from the road, is not only a geographical break in the curve of the cliffs. It contains a Georgian summer house of a character perhaps unique. The "summer house" is a cave, or "grot" as its contriver styled it. It is obviously artificial. Round its sides is a roughly hewn stone bench. The walls and vault are covered with Latin poetry and English verses. The lettering is clearly of the 18th century. Lugger's Cave, as the "grot" is called, has a whimsical story. In 1784, the American war just ended, a naval purser named Joseph Lugger found himself ashore and unemployed. He retired to a farm not far from the cliffs, and employed his long leisure in hewing out this grotto to serve him as a sheltered retreat for the philosophic admiration of rugged nature. His labours, as he tells in one of the rock-cut poems, had the incidentally happy result of curing him of gout. Lugger died in 1798, and a little later a fellow retired purser named Lee added an inscription explaining the facts which had led to the excavation of this strange belvedere.



LOOKING TOWARDS LOOE ALONG THE SANDS AND ROCKS OF WHITSAND BAY FROM ABOVE RAME



"A village in Norfolk" by Peter de Wint, 1784-1849.
Watercolour, 12½ inches by 19½ inches. Exhib. R.W.S.
1845, No. 29, Colln. Heathcote, Comington Castle.



Irish silver fluted bowl. Period, George II.
Dublin, date 1732. Maker, Thomas Williamson.
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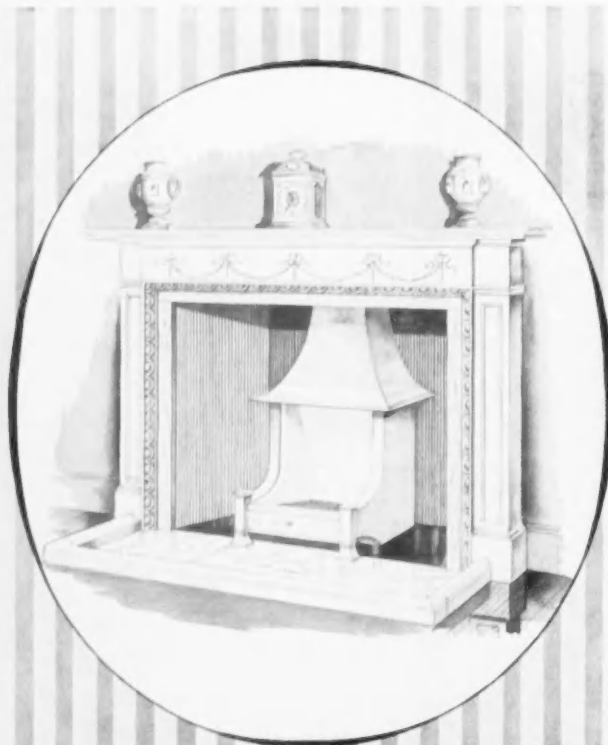
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A CAUSERIE ON BRIDGE

WHAT COUNTS IN PLAY

By M. HARRISON-GRAY

LAST week I spared a few words of pity for those who write textbooks on bidding and those who study them. Now comes a new and authoritative work on the play—*Card Play Technique*, or *The Art of Being Lucky*, by Victor Mollo and Nico Gardener (Newnes, 15s.). Mollo is author of the best-selling *Streamlined Bridge* and brings the same sprightly approach to the soulless mechanics of card play, while Gardener is the principal of a well-known Bridge school.

To be frank, I have not had time to wade through this book and cannot say whether it scores over other fine works on the subject. It may well be, as the authors claim, that "For every problem there is a new approach," but the real-life problem can never be solved within the compass of a book. Obviously, you must start your painful climb up the ladder of success with a sound "book" knowledge of card play technique; this only counts for about five per cent., however, unless you can cultivate a Bridge player's reactions to each different situation that you meet at the table.

Let us analyse the results on a hand that was played at twelve tables in a recent duplicate pairs contest:

♠ A K 7 4 3		♠ Q 6
♥ A 8		♥ K 9
♦ 3		♦ Q J 7 6 2
♣ K 10 7 5 2		♣ J 8 4 3
♠ J 9 8 5	W	♠ 10 2
♥ 6 5	E	♥ Q J 10 7 4 3 2
♦ 10 9 4	S	♦ A K 8 5
♣ A Q 9 6		♣ ...

Dealer, North. Neither side vulnerable.

Six Hearts is evidently not a popular type of slam, for it was bid at one table only (One Club—One Heart; One Spade—Four Hearts; Four No-Trumps—Five Diamonds; Five Hearts—Six Hearts). At all other tables South played in Four Hearts, but with match points scoring it was vital to make as many overtricks as possible; yet in one case only, where West obliged with the lead of Ace of Clubs, did South come to 12 tricks. Elsewhere the play took a paradoxical turn.

Case A. The opening lead was a Diamond or Spade.

South played one high Diamond only and ruffed a small one in dummy, came back by trumping a Club, ruffed his other small Diamond with Ace of Hearts, trumped another Club, and led Queen of Hearts. East won and led a Diamond, so South's master was ruffed by West.

Case B. The opening lead was a trump.

South rightly refused the finesse; he cashed both Ace and King of Diamonds, ruffed a low Diamond with dummy's Eight of Hearts, came back to hand, and led Queen of Hearts. East won and cashed a winning Diamond.

Query. In case A, why did South not cash both of his high Diamonds before ruffing small ones in dummy? In case B, why did he virtually make sure of losing two tricks?

Several of the declarers who maintained that 12 tricks could not be made after a trump lead are wont to talk learnedly about squeeze play. They would undoubtedly have seen daylight if Nico Gardener had stood behind them and said: "A squeeze is the only way of making 12 tricks—go ahead." I am afraid the trouble is this: the student can pore over the beautiful squeeze-play matrices in the textbooks, showing menaces and guards in heavy type, but for some reason the thought of a possible squeeze never seems to occur to him in actual play. Mere technique is not enough; the operative word is *recognition*.

The solitary declarer at Six Hearts (one of my guinea-pigs, needless to say!) got the "killing" lead of a trump, but it took him only a few seconds to sum up the prospects. He won with Ace of Hearts, ruffed a Club (if East had the Ace, he might be induced to play it), cashed Ace of Diamonds, ruffed a low Diamond in

dummy, trumped another Club, and led Queen of Hearts. East won and led Queen of Diamonds to the King; South took a second round of trumps, led a Spade to the King, and ruffed a third Club; when the Ace failed to drop, he simply led out his trumps. This is how the ending would appear in a text-book:

♠ A 7		♠ Q
♥ ...		♥ ...
♦ K		♦ Q
♠ J 9	N	♠ J
♥ ...	W	♥ ...
♦ ...	E	♦ ...
♣ A	S	♣ ...
♠ 10		♠ 7
♥ 7		♥ 8
♦ 7		♦ ...

South leads his last trump, and West is helpless. This line of play will clearly succeed against numerous other combinations of the Spade, Diamond and Club guards.

In the same contest there was another significant example:

West	East
♠ 8	♠ 9 6 3
♥ 6 2	♥ A K Q 10 8 3
♦ K J 10 8 7	♦ A 9 5 3
♣ K Q J 9 8	♣ ...

Dealer, East. Neither side vulnerable.

A hand like this is a match points nightmare. After One Heart—Two Diamonds, East must consider the possibility of a slam; if the bidding fizzles out at Five Diamonds, however, he will curse himself for not insisting on a contract of Four Hearts—if made with one overtrick (450), this is better than making two overtricks in Five Diamonds (440).

At most tables the bidding was One Heart—Two Diamonds; Four Diamonds—Five Diamonds. West recognised the urgency of the jump raise in a minor, but lack of a first-round control ruled out a slam try, and East in turn was stymied by his Spade losers. The opening lead was a small Club. West ruffed in dummy and played Ace and King of Diamonds; if the

Queen did not fall, he might still get his Spade away in time on the Hearts.

In practice West viewed with mixed feelings the fall of the enemy trumps in two rounds, but he heaved a vast sigh of relief when North failed to follow suit on the first round of Hearts. This meant that a Spade and two trump tricks would have to be lost in a contract of Four Hearts, and the consequent score of 420 could be equalled by making one overtrick in Five Diamonds. With one accord various declarers cashed the top Hearts, disposing of their Spade, came to hand with a Heart ruff, and ran the King of Clubs, losing to South's Ace; they triumphantly claimed the rest, as the Nine of Clubs could be ruffed with dummy's last trump.

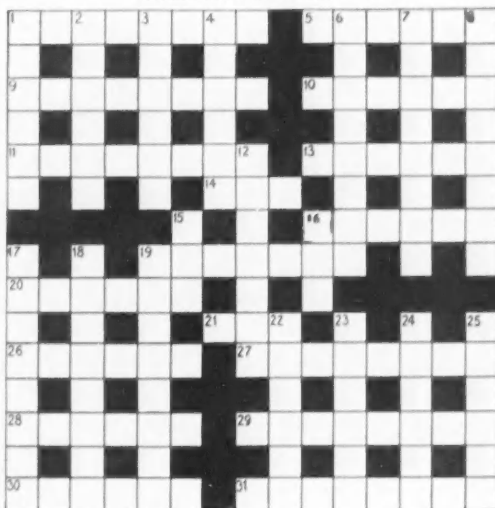
At one table only did West, in the same contract of Five Diamonds, show a Bridge player's reaction when North was found to be void in Hearts. Since he had two Diamonds only, he was marked with eleven black cards—and, if he held six Spades, would he not be inclined to make a non-vulnerable overcall? Does it cost West anything to ruff his Nine of Clubs in dummy at trick 8, and smugly invite South to drop his Ace? The full deal:

♠ A J 5 4 2		♠ 9 6 3
♥ ...		♥ A K Q 10 8 3
♦ Q 6		♦ A 9 5 3
♣ 10 7 6 5 3 2		♣ ...
♠ 8	W	♠ K Q 10 7
♥ 6 2	E	♥ J 9 7 5 4
♦ K J 10 8 7	S	♦ 4 2
♣ K Q J 9 8		♣ A 4

No one succeeded in making Four Hearts. One East-West pair took a big penalty off opponents who sacrificed in Five Spades doubled; the next best score, 20 match points out of a possible 22, went to the pair who made two overtricks in Five Diamonds without any great exertion on the part of the declarer. Recognition is merely another word for elementary observation.

CROSSWORD No. 1347

COUNTRY LIFE books to the value of 3 guineas will be awarded for the first correct solution opened. Solutions (in a closed envelope) must reach "Crossword No. 1347, COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," not later than the first post on the morning of Wednesday, November 30, 1955.



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SOLUTION TO No. 1346. The winner of this Crossword, the clues of which appeared in the issue of November 24, will be announced next week.

ACROSS.—1, Loast; 4, Scatters; 10, Kimbolton; 11, Iviza; 12, Loan; 13, Broad beans; 15, Naughty; 16, Avenue; 19, Patent; 21, Mourner; 23, Lighthouse; 25, Prop; 27, Thorn; 28, Gladiator; 29, Even date; 30, Alfred. DOWN.—1, Lakeland; 2, Campanula; 3, Spot; 5, Cantata; 6, Thimbleful; 7, Erica; 8, Sparse; 9, Starry; 14, Threatened; 17, Generator; 18, Prepared; 20, Thought; 21, Muscat; 22, Blithe; 24, Goose; 26, Bill.

ACROSS

- In a sense the pound was one, but this goes on wheels (4, 4)
- Time may be given it (6)
- State of a queen (8)
- Nets do get entangled in this resort (6)
- Do they put their faith in the fifth letter? (8)
- He is his last two letters backwards (6)
- Just the place for a lazy oyster (6)
- Play that is prepared for sick cases (6)
- Red toys to break in pieces (7)
- Did the driver do it because he saw the funny side? (6)
- See 14 across.
- "Just — all music makes —" — Sidney (6)
- Cromwell was one (8)
- A feature of Norfolk outside Britain (6)
- These birds get fish in pea-containers (8)
- Action that proceeds from controversy (6)
- Did they glide into the musician's gallery? (8)

DOWN

- Four inside stop up: much may turn on them (6)
- Old man of the sea (6)
- November days (6)
- "Tho' much is taken, much —" — Tennyson (6)
- Advice to an angler from one on the shore (8)
- The fault is very French to go by (8)
- Bearing not needing renewal (8)
- One who has come to stay (7)
- Like a pillar-box in the blazing sun? (6)
- Bird that is rather more than a country dweller (8)
- Part or all of the concert, perhaps, and there is nothing more to it (8)
- A seeder (anagr.) (8)
- Do those who do this to a ruler testify to their dislike of him? (6)
- Peter, of Rum-ti-foo (6)
- It is a fruit but one can make it corn (6)
- Cattle, perhaps, as put down in wagers (6)

NOTE.—This Competition does not apply to the United States.

The winner of Crossword No. 1345 is
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FARMING NOTES

FARM SUBSIDIES

THERE is a strange idea going round to-day that the agricultural subsidies guarantee farmers against losses. This is not true. Many of us know from experience that the agricultural subsidies did not operate with this effect in the past farming year when the grain harvest was poor and costly to get. The system of price support which has been adopted for agriculture rather than the import tariffs which protect other major industries does not guarantee the profitability of the industry. It has been said before, and it bears repeating here, that the effective degree of protection afforded to agriculture by way of the subsidies is less than the protection afforded to several other industries. The motor-car manufacturing industry, for instance, has the shelter of a tariff of 33½ per cent. against foreign competition. This does not guarantee profitability to an inefficient firm, if there are any in the motor-car industry, but it has allowed well-run firms to make substantial profits in recent years.

As a farmer I do not grudge the shareholders their bonus shares and their dividends. In comparison the agricultural industry gets a measure of price support by way of subsidy which is equivalent to tariff protection at the rate of 20 to 25 per cent. Not all manufacturing industry enjoys the benefit of a 33½ per cent. import tariff. Probably the average figure is nearer 15 per cent.

Probably the agricultural subsidies generally give a higher rate of protection than the average tariff protection afforded to urban industry. The necessity for this is that a large part of the competition which British agriculture has to meet is subsidised in one way or another. There is a clear export subsidy given on French wheat and a disguised subsidy on some other products shipped to this country, which influence the level of the domestic market prices. But let us have no more talk about the subsidies guaranteeing British farmers against losses.

More Oats Needed

ACCORDING to the Ministry of Agriculture in Northern Ireland, £500,000 worth of oats for feeding were imported by Northern Ireland from abroad in 1954, and the quantity of oats grown this year was dangerously small. It is reckoned that if all the oats obtained from the 1955 crop were reserved for farm poultry there would not be nearly enough to provide normal rations through the year. Other classes of stock need oats which, if they are grown on the farm, can help to make cattle rations economical in cost. The Northern Ireland Ministry urges farmers to extend the area of crops grown for stock feeding. The official advice is: "Think of the present price of both grain and straw and enjoy in 1956 the feeling of independence and sense of security which come from stock yards and barns that are well filled with wholesome provender." This is good advice to the British farmer as well as his fellow in Northern Ireland. We all ought to grow more oats in 1956.

Grain Championships

AT the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto British entries won the world championship for oats and several other prizes. The oat championship was awarded to a sample of Ayr Everest oats grown by Mr. William Sharpe, of Banff, Scotland, and the reserve went to Onward, sent from Stirling. The winter wheat championship was won by Messrs. Elsoms, of Spalding, with a sample of Capelle Desprez. The British entry from Twyford Mills, of Banbury, took a reserve

championship for rye, and Harrisons Glory peas, grown in East Anglia, took another of the reserve championships at the Royal Winter Fair. These awards are a high tribute to the skill of British farmers in exploiting the discoveries of plant breeders.

Pig Standards

IN the course of next year we should have in Britain the first of the five stations for testing the capacity of pedigree pigs for economical production. If the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Pig Production are adopted, pedigree breeders will by using these progeny testing stations qualify for an accredited register. The ordinary farmer will be able to go to an accredited herd and be sure that the boar he buys is the son of a boar the progeny of which has been subject to test. The boar which transmits to its offspring undesirable characteristics is a bad pig, irrespective of its appearance or of the fact that he may have won many awards in the show ring. Since April, 1954, Ulster has had a pig progeny testing station at Muckamore in County Antrim. The station is designed so that all the pigs are housed, fed and managed exactly alike, thus ensuring that the results will not be influenced by differences in environment but solely by genetical factors. Each litter group tested consists of 4 pigs—preferably two hogs and two sows. The test period starts when the four pigs average 60 pounds and each pig is sent to the bacon factory when it reaches slaughter weight, approximately 210 pounds. Accurate records are kept of the quantity of meal consumed, liveweight counted and the carcass measurements at the factory. These records should enable the breeder to identify sires and dams which transmit good qualities to their offspring.

The Modern Blacksmith

IT is satisfactory to read in the annual report of the Rural Industries Bureau that a good number of lads are coming forward as apprentices under the scheme run by the Master Farriers', Blacksmiths' and Agricultural Engineers' Association. There are now 500 indentured and registered apprentices. The village blacksmith moves with the times and the younger generation want modern workshops and up-to-date equipment which will enable them to do far more than shoe horses. To meet this demand, the Bureau has an experimental workshop, where new methods and new mechanical aids are tested so that the best can be recommended. In a foreword to this report, Sir Basil Mayhew emphasises the concern of the Rural Industries Bureau to help rural craftsmen to use modern techniques while keeping their independent standards.

The Queen's Prize

TO mark her Majesty's year as President in 1954, the Royal Agricultural Society of England instituted the Queen's Prize to be awarded each year to the student earning the highest marks in the examination for the National Diploma in Agriculture. The winner this year is Mr. A. D. Saddler, of Brewood, Staffordshire. Of the 263 students who sat for the N.D.A. this year 146 gained the diploma. In addition, 39 dairy diplomas were awarded. Both the Agricultural Diploma and the Dairying Diploma are hall-marks of a course of technical training that should stand students in good stead. It would be interesting to know how many farmers nowadays send their sons and daughters to take these courses.

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THE ESTATE MARKET

MEANS TESTS FOR TENANTS?

SIX weeks ago the Minister of Housing and Local Government invited representatives of local authorities and of the London County Council to discuss the future of housing subsidies, which the Government had announced were to be drastically reduced. At the subsequent meeting Mr. Sandys pledged himself "to do nothing to impair the impetus of the all-important drive on slum clearance," and he was as good as his word, for when, a fortnight ago, he introduced the Housing Subsidies Bill he announced that it was intended to abolish the existing subsidy on council houses built for general needs and to introduce the principle of differential subsidies for houses built with a view to slum clearance.

POSER FOR AUTHORITIES

THE Government's decision to do away with subsidies so far as the general run of council houses is concerned sets local authorities a poser, for even with subsidies it has been impossible to build houses that conform to the regulation pattern except at a loss. The authorities will therefore have to decide whether to pass on the increased cost to the public by means of an additional levy on the general rate, to raise rents wholesale, or to introduce a means test with a view to finding out what would be a fair rent for an individual tenant to pay under the changed circumstances.

Unquestionably a means test is the fairest way of apportioning any additional rent that may be required in order to make the building of council houses an economic proposition. "Housing subsidies," said Mr. Sandys, when introducing the Bill, "are granted with one object: that no one will, through lack of means, be prevented from having a decent, healthy home—but it cannot reasonably be assumed that all council tenants need the subsidies." Indeed, it is plainly absurd that a man who is earning, say, £1,500 a year should have a percentage of his rent paid for him by others who may be, and often are, less well off than he is.

GRASPING THE NETTLE

THE introduction of a means test for council house tenants is no new idea, for the scheme has been suggested on a number of occasions. Up till now, however, most local authorities have shied away from it, being fearful of the consequences. And, indeed, it has one serious drawback, inasmuch as to operate it successfully it would be necessary to enquire into the financial affairs of tenants, a liberty that should not be taken lightly. Nevertheless, in these days, when the State confers numerous benefits on those who could not otherwise afford them, it is often necessary to prove hardship, and there seems no reason why, with tactful handling, the same principle should not be applied to housing. One hopes that in the interests of fairness local authorities will have the courage to grasp the nettle.

RENT REVISION PROMISED

OUT of the Government's decision to abolish subsidies on houses built for general needs comes welcome news for private owners of rent-restricted property, for Mr. Sandys, when pointing out that the steps taken would tend to encourage local authorities to charge rents more in keeping with current wages and the present-day value of money, went on to say that the Government recognised that the level of rents of council houses and that of privately-owned houses was interrelated, and that it would clearly

be necessary to review the provisions of the Rent Acts. "This we shall now do," he said, "and we shall announce our conclusions in due course."

LORDS OF THE MANOR

A LITTLE over a year ago Messrs. A Strutt and Parker held a successful auction of the Beaumont collection of lordships of manors, 22 of the 29 lots offered being sold. Next Wednesday, the same firm, which has since joined forces with Messrs. Lofts and Warner, will offer another 29 lordships, a difference being that whereas the manors sold last year were located in the Eastern Counties, this time a number of other counties, Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, Hertfordshire, Surrey, Berkshire and Radnorshire, are represented.

For anyone who may wish to know exactly what he will be getting if he buys a manor, it may be said, broadly, that he will be entitled to call himself lord of the manor; obtain delivery of all the manorial records specified in the particulars; inspect, free of charge, any manorial records; own such commons, greens and wastes as may still form part of the manor; enjoy sport over such commons, etc., cut and move turf therefrom, cut timber growing thereon, let the grazing and sporting rights thereover; enjoy any income payable by the appropriate authorities for way-leaves in respect of telegraph, telephone and electricity poles, etc.; claim way-leave rentals with the same authorities in cases where it can be shown that structures have been erected on parts of the wastes of the manor without agreements having been entered into; work and carry away minerals and mineral substances in or under such commons, greens or wastes as may still form part of the manor; and be the owner of any minerals, etc., in or under any land, former copyhold of the manor, in which the lord's rights have not been extinguished, and of the sporting rights thereover.

BENEFIT TO COMMUNITIES

SO much for the tangible assets that go with a lordship. But it is probably a sense of the historic that counts with most buyers, though that is not to say that benefit to communities in which the manors are situated have not accrued through some of the successful bidders at last year's sale taking a personal interest in local activities. For example, this interest has taken the form of tidying up the greens in one case; giving active support towards erecting a pavilion for the cricket club in another; and the writing of a village history from the records in another.

SALES IN KENT

A FORTNIGHT ago I referred to the keen demand for residential properties in Surrey and Sussex, especially when a certain amount of land was offered with the house, and the same consideration holds good for Kent, in which county Messrs. Geering and Colyer have recently effected a number of sales, among them those of Mayton, a mixed farm of 178 acres situated at Sturry, near Canterbury; Four Elms, a farm of 114 acres, near Edenbridge; and Pages Farm and Park Farm, dairy holdings of 90 acres and 64 acres, situated respectively at Stowting and Shadoxhurst, near Ashford. Another Kentish property that changed hands recently is Greysbury, Marsh Green, near Edenbridge, described by the agents, Messrs. Styles, Whitlock and Petersen, as "a gentleman's farm with an attractive old house, two cottages and about 200 acres."

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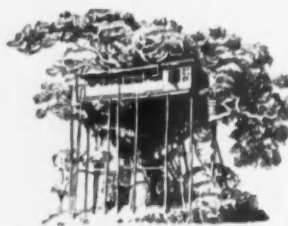
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POET OF THE INDIVIDUAL

Reviews by HOWARD SPRING

WALT WHITMAN'S *Leaves of Grass* was published a hundred years ago, and it is sixty-four years since he died. A half century or so after death is usually a bad time for a writer's reputation. The impulse that launched the work and that seemed to embody a certain public attitude slows down with the realisation that the attitude has changed, and especially it does so when many people begin to ask if the attitude was a valid or even a sensible one. Exuberant America, young-eyed and fearless, advancing along a road of high democratic destiny: that is the con-

society than did Melville or Mark Twain, and that at his best his vision stubbornly began and ended with these root facts."

It may seem odd to those who know little of Whitman, who know only the Whitman legend, that the great expositor of what he called *En-masse*, the man who was for ever slapping his "camerados" on the back, should have rejected "society." But Democracy, the word with which, more than any other, Whitman is associated in the common mind, did not mean to him, when he was thinking and writing at his best, anything

WALT WHITMAN RECONSIDERED. By Richard V. Chase
(Gollancz, 16s.)

GRIMALDI: KING OF CLOWNS. By Richard Findlater
(Macgibbon and Kee, 21s.)

A SENSE OF GUILT. By Simenon
(Hamish Hamilton, 12s. 6d.)

ception most people have of the thing Whitman expressed. It is a conception so much at variance with what, in fact, followed that Whitman's stock slumped heavily, and a recent survey of American literature found him in large part "a bore," and said of his verse: "It is the expression of a self-conscious nationalism glamourised up to the very titles, and as such is important, since its sentiments led the America that followed Whitman into a conception of democracy that was both banal and pretentious and was to receive no strong corrective until Sinclair Lewis attacked it with his astringent satire in the nineteen-twenties."

"UNDENIABLE GENIUS"

Now comes Mr. Richard V. Chase, who is assistant professor of English at Columbia, with *Walt Whitman Reconsidered* (Gollancz, 16s.), and on the whole I think he does Whitman good service. Recognising that nowadays "Whitman's reputation, despite what we may say to the contrary in our moments of public piety, is not very high," he looks for what there is of "true undeniable genius, residual and authentic power." To pack Mr. Chase's findings into brief expression is not easy, but let us try. Whitman insisted on the *individual*. He it was who "first sought out the grounds on which, in the midst of our modern urbanisation, the individual with all his dilemmas and aspirations can exist." And is not the threat to extinguish, or at any rate diminish, the individual the growing cloud that darkens contemporary life? Therefore, says Mr. Chase, "the future reader may not think it an extreme case if someone should remark to him that Whitman's utopian rejection of society is, under modern conditions, the necessary first step towards the preservation of what is vital in society and the revitalisation of what is not, and, furthermore, that despite his intellectual shortcomings, despite even the final disappearance of his idealism into the All, Whitman knew more of the home-ly root facts of the life of modern

more than a glad association of free spirits. He certainly didn't see it in terms of pickets and "card votes" and sending men to Coventry. Democracy and what he called "radicalities" were not, to him, necessarily the same thing. He said towards the end of his life: "I am not afraid of conservatism, not afraid of going too slow, of being held back: rather I often wonder if we are not going ahead too swiftly—whether it's not good to have the radicalities, progresses, reforms, restrained . . . We must hold our horses . . . We must not rush aimlessly ahead."

Mr. Chase thinks that Whitman's effulgence as a poet dimmed after his earliest work, that he was "ruined as a poet" when a vague generality swamped "his chief forte and glory—his entirely original, vividly realistic presentation of the comedy and pathos of 'the simple separate person'."

FROM PRINTING TO POETRY

Whitman was thirty-six when the first and almost unnoticed edition of *Leaves of Grass* was published. (There was the superb exception of Emerson's instant recognition of greatness.) How the Whitman-tilt then became the poet of *Leaves of Grass* is one of those mysteries of the spirit that are inexplicable. Not that this prevents Mr. Chase from attempting to explain in a passage full of such expressions as "psychic economy," "images fresh from the subliminal mind," "timeless universal continuum," "the sheer solipsism and incongruity of unconscious thought." All very sad. The simple fact is that out of a home bedevilled by poverty, drunkenness, tuberculosis, insanity and epilepsy, the gangling lad made his way to a slipshod career as printer and later as a journalist turning out undistinguished reams. And then there was *Leaves of Grass*. "The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh and whither it goeth." So is everyone that is born of the spirit. Better leave it at that. All very well to talk about Whitman's

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creating "a utopian compensation for the squalor he had known." How?

Well, this is a good attempt to survey the massive hulk and discover what timbers are still sound enough for a further voyage on the sea of time. Most of us, I think, treasure above all else a handful of lyrics, and the man who has left that behind him has done well enough.

A COMIC GENIUS

Mr. Richard Findlater, in his biography *Grimaldi: King of Clowns* (Macgibbon and Kee, 21s.) quotes a report in the old *Monthly Mirror* of a Grimaldi performance. It contains the words: "We can in no way describe what he does, nor give any idea of the inimitable style in which he keeps up the ball from the beginning to the end. He must be seen." And there is the story of how a deaf sailor, not hearing a word, was so diverted by the mere sight of Grimaldi's performance that he recovered his hearing! And here is the difficulty that confronts the author of such a book as this. There are a few pictures of Grimaldi, but they don't tell us much. A clown arrested in a static attitude has as much relation to clowning as a bucket of water has to a brook running in sunlight. There are the words of some of Grimaldi's songs. They don't help. If you were to read that George Robey could bring down the house by saying "Desist!" what could that mean to you unless you had seen the face with that word issuing from it?

So we are left without much sense of the essence and quiddity of a man who, by common consent, was the greatest clown of all time. In compensation we have a book which gives us the outward seeming of the man, which on the whole was pathetic, and supplies us at the same time with a first-rate account of the theatre towards the end of last century, so far as both the clowns and the comedians as well as the legitimate actors were concerned. The division between the two sorts of players was profound, amounting to what Mr. Findlater calls a "caste system." He is of the opinion that Grimaldi would have added lustre to the "legitimate" stage had he been given the chance. "It is tantalising to think of what he might have done with Gobbo, Pompey, Dogberry and other parts which were written for clowns but are all too seldom played by them, parts in which the text matters less than the action." (One remembers Robey's great Falstaff.) "Grimaldi, it is conceivable, might have done for Shakespeare's comics what Kean did for Shakespeare's villains; with his genius for laughter, he might well have restored the balance—still lopsided in the modern theatre—between the ridiculous and the sublime."

UNMASKING AN ACTOR

In reviewing a brief novel by Simenon, it may seem odd to revert to Whitman, but there is a connection. Whitman ponders the question, "Whether that which appears so is so, or is it all flashes and specks?" and Mr. Chase tells us of Whitman's preoccupation with "the go-befores and embryos," the roots of things. Again, Mr. Chase speaks of Whitman's "speculations as to how identity can be formed or maintained or eluded," which "may be traced to the unsettled family life of his earliest days."

Simenon's book, *A Sense of Guilt* (Hamish Hamilton, 12s. 6d.), contains

two stories. It is the second one, called *The Heart of a Man*, that concerns me here. The man is Maugin, an actor, and an actor is a man who wears a mask, who takes on many identities. Simenon tells us a lot about Maugin in a few words: "He had worn his first dressing-gown at the age of thirty-two in a comic sketch. Until the age of twenty-eight he had never owned a pair of pyjamas or a night-shirt, had slept in his day shirt, and, not having bedroom slippers, had stuck his bare feet, while he was getting up, into his unlaced shoes."

A SUM OF PARTS

I don't commend this book to the squeamish. Simenon's account of the family circumstances when Maugin was a boy is ruthless and sickening. The man himself is sickening: gross, drunken, an insatiable chaser of women. But now he is, also, a great actor and rich. All his origins, all his acquired faults, hang about him, and despite this the author gives us the sense of a stupendous if sinful human being, generous and bestial. Who and what am I? What, in fact, is my identity, the product of all those "go-befores and embryos," all those parts I have played, all those men I have been in becoming the man I now appear to be? What "flashes and specks" have made Maugin who, when he dies, will be front-page news?

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PARTY CLOTHES for all ages

THE fluffy party dresses look even more bouffant this Christmas, as the manufacturers have realised the joy that a stiff petticoat means to little girls. Waist petticoats, some of stiff crackle nylon, are attached under the skirts and ruffled, scalloped or serrated at the hem. More white ruffled petticoats, both in waist and princess styles, are available in all sizes upwards so that another can be added if the foundation attached to the dress does not give enough swing.

Favourite fabrics for party dresses are cotton organdie, gossamer nylon lace, the nylon tulle that is fireproof, taffeta and velvet. The cap sleeve cut in one with the bodice and the pinafore frill over the shoulder have superseded the short puffed sleeve. Many of the really small organdie dresses are circled on the skirts with pin tucks, rose-bud ribbons, rows of embroidered flower heads, narrow ruffles and narrow lace. All this goes to create a skirt that is as crisp as a doyley. White organdie circular skirts embroidered with scrolls of ruched blue or pink ribbon with more massed over the bodice and the short cap sleeve make a charming design for the two- to six-year-old girl.

For the six- to ten-year-old group, bib and apron effects seem popular, particularly in plain organdie with a pin-tucked bib front on the bodice and a full gathered skirt that has a hem of pin tucking. Apron-shaped sections are joined on to the rest of the dress with ruffles of narrow lace. The apron may be plain organdie and the rest spot muslin or organdie embossed with poses of flowers. Spot organdies in darker shades than the usual pastels, or white, sapphire-blue or cherry with pinhead dots in white, have largely abandoned the usual waist-length bodice and



The girl on the left wears a white organdie party dress with a tucked skirt and yellow organdie flowers appliquéd on the waist and shoulder (Liberty). The girl on the elephant also wears organdie, this time peach-coloured (The White House). The boy's buster suit has scarlet barathra shorts and an off-white wool taffeta blouse top with red stitching round the collar and cuffs (Rowes)



(Left) Navy blue velvet is decorated with narrow white guipure lace on the circular collar, puffed sleeves and skirt. A crackle nylon petticoat holds it out at the hemline. The younger girl wears a velvet pinafore dress and a neat broderie anglaise blouse (Fortnum and Mason). Heavy damask silk is used for the cocktail skirt, which features the new Dior waistband buttoning down the front. The pale pink gossamer wool top is embroidered with sequins (Dorville)

Photographs by COUNTRY LIFE Studio



Evening ensemble in slipper satin, the coat in grey with an appliqué of shell pink flowers sewn with sequins. The dress in shell pink is embossed with flowers and leaves outlined in velvet of the same colour (Roceliff and Chapman)

(Right) The Victorian crystal and ormolu casket holds a Georgian gold guard chain and a Saint Esprit paste necklace set in silver. By the side are a Victorian pinchbeck twist brooch and a pair of silver and gilt Rococo earrings with enamel plaques surrounded by turquoises and garnets (Haleyon Days)



bunchy skirt, and the dresses are cut with gored skirts and sleeveless bodices, sometimes scooped out to an oval or high to the throat with a cape collar edged by a ruffle. Either way they look more grown up than the party dresses that have changed very little from the children of Reynolds and Gainsborough paintings. Velvet dresses feature much the same styles with oval necklines bordered by ruffles or narrow lace collars or with Little Lord Fauntleroy collars circling the throat.

THE teenagers have their own collections and for them the designers have successfully steered a middle course between the over-sophisticated and the missish designs of a few years ago. They have been particularly successful with some charming organzas and taffeta dresses, both short and long, where the simple fitted bodices are softened by flat fichus surrounding oval necklines and forming small sleeves. Drawstring necklines threaded with velvet finish other simple dresses in organza that are flock-printed with velvet dots or flowers. There are far fewer frills and flounces on these dresses than usual for this age group and a simplicity of outline that is pleasing. The high square neckline can look very young on a plain pale satin dress. Fluffy tulles keep the widest possible of skirts compressed into the tight bodices with short folded sleeves arranged so that they continue the curve of the neckline. Usually there is a folded satin sash with streamers. Satin court shoes with peg heels of several heights can be dyed to match a dress, or the scarlet and vivid lapis blue shades that Dior is showing with his evening dresses are advised. Dolcis make attractive satin sandals in these vivid colours with matching oblong bags decorated with a line of strass.

For the grown-up it is the pale brocades or satin evening dresses with short skirts

and their own velvet or satin coat of the same length that are the highlights of this winter. The gleaming satins or brocades come in all the pale yellow tones, in beige and café-au-lait, in shell and rose pinks. Rose pink or apricot frocks in satin are flock-printed with white sprays of flowers or leaves, ivory with beige or lemon. Mushroom brown and café-au-lait are good colours for both the velvet and the satin coats, while rose pink as well as the deeper raspberry pink have been chosen in many of the big wholesale collections for tailored satin coats. Shoulders on the coats are narrow and sleeves plain and they are gored so that they follow the contours of the dresses, which are kept moderately wide. Occasionally a really vivid orange or pimento breaks in on the pale shades of the dresses and then the coat will be black or plum or a dark myrtle green.

Stoles remain firmly entrenched in favour. The shape of all—from mink down to the humble wool—is much the same: broad and flat so that the stole can be folded round for warmth or be thrown back over the shoulders and stream down either side. The pelerine or caped stole is usual in fur but not in fabric and all the lovely mellow tones of mutation mink worked in this caped style look wonderful. Sapphire is the most exclusive of all perhaps where the skins are tinged with blue, but a white mink on a chiffon foundation is magnificent. Loveliest of all the evening stoles in fabric are those made in sari silk gauze threaded with untarnishable gold and silver. Nylon gauze woven in puckered and smocked effects drapes well and a depth of colour can be obtained by the shirring that is most effective. They have a comforting warmth and softness also. The brilliant fluffy wool and mohair mixture stoles are equally effective and can be used for evening just as well as for daytime with a plain tailored suit or coat frock.

The most elaborate of necklaces are added to the cocktail and evening dresses whether short or long. Necklines are left plain on purpose and scooped out or cut high to the throat, when the necklaces lie over the plain silk top. Looped and tasselled necklaces in light chased metal studded with rhinestones or pearl or both add the right dazzling touch to the simple dresses.

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Brocade in a small intricate Eastern pattern in deep sapphire blue and silver makes this short full dress. The stole, in puckered nylon, is deep blue (Jacquard)

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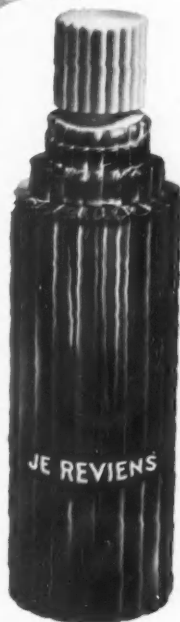
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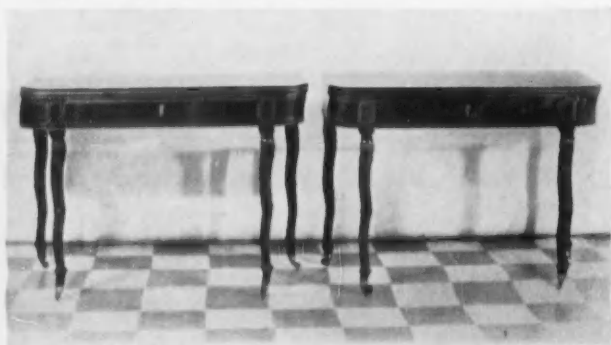
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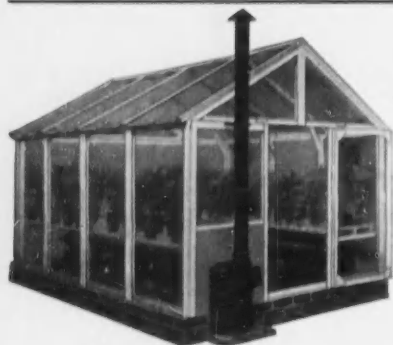
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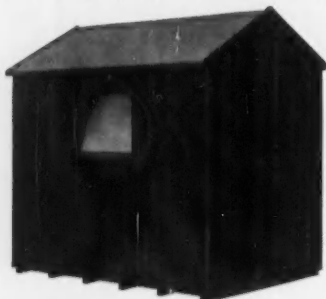


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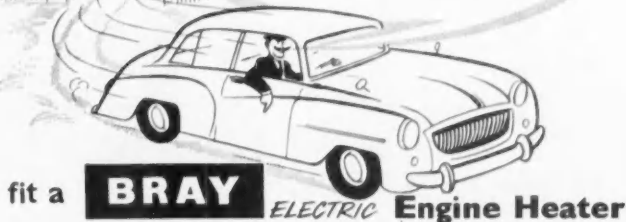
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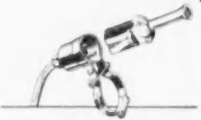


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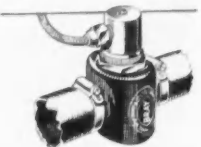
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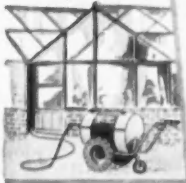
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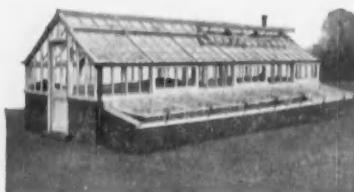
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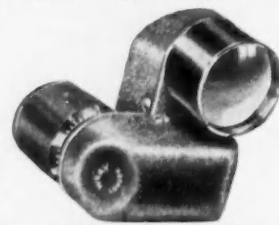
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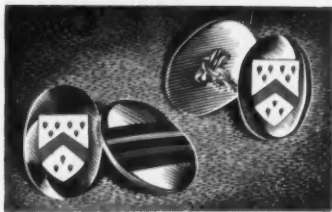
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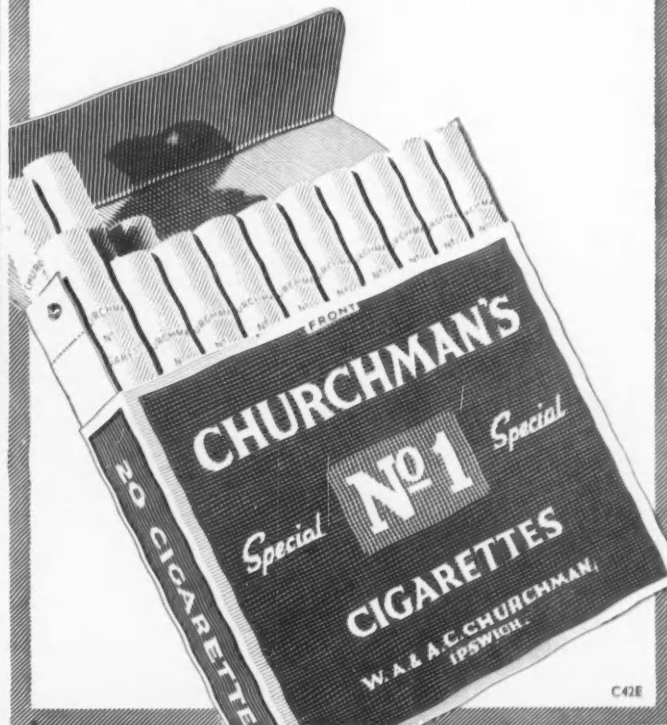
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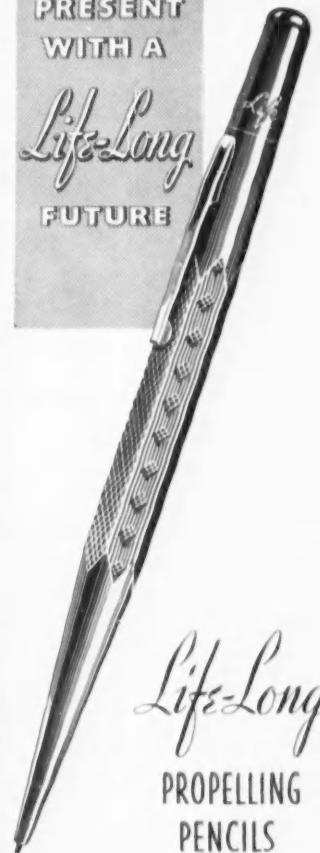
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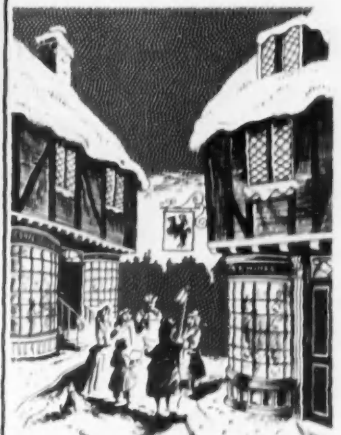
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BOOKS within 50 miles of London. JOHN L. HUNT (Estab. 1927) will call by car and collect and pay HIGHEST CASH PRICES for Books (including Novels). Write 268, Croydon Road, Caterham, or phone Caterham 3187.

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A CHRISTMAS GIFT of a Covenant or Donation to WAYPARRERS TRUST will save GOSFIELD HALL, ESSEX for the NATION.

and restore this Historic House as a Residential Nursing Home with Hospital Facilities for sixty-four aged, sick and infirm men and women with very slender incomes and run it for them with the minimum of fees as a self-supporting project.

EIGHT THOUSAND POUNDS has been loaned to complete £30,000 necessary to claim Ministry of Works' grant of £17,000. Donated £2,000. Interest 18.000.

Gifts to repay loan should be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, D.L. Col. Sir John Ruggles-Brise, Bt., O.B.E., D.C., J.P., Flat A, 114, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7.

A GUIDE DOG gives independence to the blind. At Christmas please remember THE GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND ASSOCIATION, 81, Piccadilly, London, W.1.

GIVE THANKS FOR YOUR HOME THIS CHRISTMAS, by remembering a homeless child. Refugee children are the most tragic victims of war, persecution and disaster. 10/- gives a hot meal to 100 of Korea's 100,000 orphans. Cries for help reach us from all parts of the world.—COUNTRY RELIEF, OXFORD COMMITTEE FOR FAMINE RELIEF, 17, Broad Street, Oxford. Supporters include The Duke of Buccleuch and Lord Halifax.

If you are elderly and well provided for will you consider helping NOW or in YOUR WILL an organisation established 18 years providing Guest Houses and Flatlets for aged people of low income? Brochure and report gladly furnished by Secretary, FELLOWSHIP HOUSES TRUST, Clock House, Byfleet, Surrey.

I MUST send a TOY to THE SHAPESBURY SOCIETY for distribution to London's needy children.—32, John Street, W.C.1.

OLD AND COLD. Please send donation to purchase blankets for pensioners and those who are ill.—PERSONAL SERVICE LEAGUE 41, Lowndes Square, London, S.W.1.

STATUE OR HOSPITAL?—Both commemorate, only one serves. 1955 calls for special thought of Miss Nightingale and her Hospital. Here as Lady Superintendent she proved herself and her genius—send in gratitude a Gift to the Appeal Secretary, FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE HOSPITAL, 19, Lisson Grove, London, N.W.1.

THE CANCER RELIEF FUND bring comfort and cheer to thousands of sufferers year after year. (Benefits paid exceed £60,000 yearly.) YOUR support is needed and cordially invited.—NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR CANCER RELIEF, 47, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

THE LORD MAYOR TRELOAR COLLEGE, Froyle, near Alton, Hants, teaches and trains physically disabled boys to earn their own living. The College is non-maintained and relies partly on subscriptions and donations, which should be sent to the Organising Secretary (Appeals).

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

A CAMERA for Christmas means many happy new years. Home Cines, Enlargers, Binoculars.—WALLACE HEATON LTD., 127, New Bond-st., W.1. MAY, 7511.

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A GOOD IDEA for Christmas Gifts. New Toilet Sets and Brushes or your old ones made as new. Also variety unusual Christmas Gifts.—T.&I.HOUSE LTD., 24, Chiltern St., W.1. WEL.8031

A NEW GIFT IDEA. Give This Christmas a Food Token and allow your recipient to choose fine foods from 14 countries. Write today for list.—GRAYSON'S, Dept. CLX, 123, Pall Mall, S.W.1.

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CHRISTMAS GIFTS—contd.

AN ideal gift for any occasion. Beautiful hand embroidered French chifton stoles. From stock or made to order. £3 upwards.—SAYAN BROS., 14, Clarges St., Mayfair, W.1. HYDE PARK 2829.

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All kinds of most delightful and individual little things for collectors or presents from SHILLINGS upwards! China, glass, silver, bronzes and curios, all are unique and guaranteed genuine.

Fully descriptive list post free.
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ATTRACTIVE Christmas Gifts by Drummond Woodware. Bulb and Cut Flower Bowls, and Vases in the finest woods. Send for our Catalogue, but order soon for our articles are bespoke.—JOHN DRUMMOND & SONS, LIMITED, Dalrymple Street, Greenock.

BEDTABLES. Craftsman made and wax polished. Complete satisfaction guaranteed. A must for invalids, 44/6 carriage paid. Harborne Bedtables, Ltd., North Road, Birmingham 17.

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A Useful and Decorative Christmas Present. Braided nozzle and nails, specially processed and requires no cleaning, best brown sheep leather, polished oak and elm timber. Packed in Cellophane bag.

7 in. x 17 in. ... 30/6 each
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SKYNNER & PIRRIE

18, Cumberland Road, Barnes, London, S.W.13.

BIRD TABLES, 30/- and 40/-. Bird Baths, 15/- Food Hoppers, 17/6. Tit Hoppers, 15/- Food Arks, 10/6. Fat Bells, 6/6. Tit, Robin and general Nest Boxes, 8/6 each. All oak/elm; carriage paid. Satisfaction guaranteed.—ERIC WOOD, Ombersley, Wores.

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CHRISTMAS CARDS designed by Edgar Norfield, from the ANGOLO-ITALIAN SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANIMALS (Dept. 41, 179, Gloucester Place, London, N.W.1). Illustrated leaflets on request, 11d.

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CHRISTMAS FARE and quality Preserves as delightful gifts. Individual Christmas puddings, boxed and wrapped, 1 lb. size 4/3, 2 lb. size 6/9. Sample Christmas parcel: One 2 lb. Christmas Pudding, containing rum and brandy, one jar Brandied Bacon, one tin each Apricots, Strawberries and Fruit Salad, one jar each Strawberry Jam and Marmalade. Delivered free 20/-. Details of other Christmas parcels sent on application.—C. H. PHILLIPS, Rowan Cottage, Chesterfield Road, Matlock, Derbyshire.

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"DELICIOUS cup of coffee" will be your verdict when you use our Espresso Style Coffee Making Machine, fully automatic, using 30 per cent less coffee.—ALLEN WALTERS & CO., LTD., 6a, St. John's Hill, London, S.W.11.

DELICIOUS FOODSTUFFS—marrons glacés, biscuits, shortbreads, crystallized whole strawberries, Carlsbad plums—all reasonably priced.

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DUNDEE CAKES of outstanding quality, made with butter and eggs from our century-old recipe; generously topped with almonds and baked in an old fashioned brick oven. Will keep for months. 12/-, 19/6, 31/6, 39/-. Post paid U.K. Also in pictorial tins 13/6 and 21/-. Xmas catalogue on request.—ADDISON'S, The Colonnade, St. Leonards, Sussex, Estab. 1829.

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EXHIBITOR R.A. paints lifelike portraits from photos. Reasonable—Box 9241.

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FULLY-FASHIONED TWIN-SETS in superfine BOTANY wool 63/- 12 lovely colours. Sizes 34-40. Also less expensive knitwear. Shade card and prices from (C.L. 25) WARREN & CO., 8, Wool Exchange, London, E.C.2.

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LATEX Foam Pillows. Soft as down. The luxury pillow that is gradually replacing all other types: HYGIENIC, WASHABLE, DUST-LESS, GERM RESISTING, NON-ALLERGIC (important to asthma sufferers). Standard size approximately 24 in. by 18 in. by 4 in. thick, post paid 19/6. Baby size: 18 in. by 12 in. by 3 in. thick post paid 10/9 (immediate despatch). Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded. Order NOW from BRITISH KITCHENCRAFT CO., LTD. (Dept. C.L.), 9, Featherhall Avenue, Edinburgh, 12.

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CHRISTMAS GIFTS—contd.

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ROSE-SPRAYS in perfumed Italian silk. Salmon, deep rose, light red, orange, yellow, mauve. 21/- to 25/6 postpaid U.K.—PHILLIPS, Clavilliam House, Walmer, Kent.

SEASONABLE GIFTS WHICH LAST. This unique collection of Carnation, Pink and Dianthus Seed will give a year's pleasure. Collection 1: Cottage Carnations, Allwood, Dianthus Sweetness, Dianthus Delight, Rainbow Loveliness Seed, 2/6 per packet, or collection of five packets, 10/-. Write for catalogue and special list containing many other gift suggestions—ALLWOOD BROS., LTD., 15, Haywards Heath, Sussex. Phone: Wivelisfield Green 232/233.

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Cardamine delicious "VICTORIA" blend packed in 14 pure tea chests. Sent to any address in Great Britain (postage paid). 1 lb. for 11/2, 2 lb. for 20/5, 3 lb. for 28/10, 6 lb. 54/3, 10 lb. 87/7.

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CHRISTMAS GIFTS—contd.

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NORTHAM, EAST SUSSEX. Architect-designed, easily run, freehold, good condition, fine views, 3 bedrooms, dressing room, Garage, 4 cars. Mortgage up to 85 per cent. arranged. No agents.—Box 9254.

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STOCKTON & PLUMSTEAD MAWNAN PALMOUTH, SOUTH CORNWALL.

S. CORNWALL, fronting Falmouth Bay. Panoramic views. Distinguished Residence/Hotel and Lodge, nestling in spacious garden sloping to sea. Unique opportunity. For sale, consider letting. Ref. 8162.

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